Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the least and 5 the most, how would you rate the trustworthiness of the CNMI's election process?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

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Tinian Elementary School names five individuals as its most outstanding.

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First batch of refund checks disbursed. PAGE 5
For every 2 HS graduates, one enrolls at NMC. PAGE 14

High turnout of early voters

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

» All set for today's mid-term election

Early voting on Saipan saw an increase this mid-term elections, with over 2,500 voters casting their ballots since Oct. 26, according to Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero.

RELATED NEWS

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He said the estimated figure of early voters from Saipan more than doubled past elections' early voting turnout, which is usually just over a thousand.

Yesterday's early voting alone on Saipan yielded more than 400 voters as of 3pm, according to Guerrero. Initial estimates of early voters on Tinian and Rota were at over 100 on

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A voter is greeted by a sign at the door to the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe yesterday afternoon for early voting. Cameras, cellular phones, and other electronic devices are not allowed in polling booths pursuant to the Commonwealth Election Commission's election rules. Today marks the CNMI's 2012 mid-term elections.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

List? Check. ID? Check. Wise choices? A must

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

On the eve of Election Day, Elena Delos Santos has already firmed up the names of candidates she will vote for to lead the Northern Marianas in the next two years.

"Every election, I make my list so that when I go to my precinct, I wouldn't get confused," said Delos Santos on Monday, adding that her ideal candidate would be someone who looks after the welfare of and sets a good example for the islands' youth.

Delos Santos, her partner Nate Elliott and son Christian, will make their way to their assigned polling place this morning, joining thousands of other registered voters in the CNMI who will decide the fate of the islands.

The Garapan resident said that besides rooting for a youth advocate, she will also vote for some-

See LIST on Page 4

Obama, Clinton endorse Kilili; RNC's Priebus endorses Acha

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Obama

Priebus

On the eve of the Nov. 6 mid-term elections, U.S. President Barack Obama endorsed yesterday the re-election of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), days after former president Bill Clinton also endorsed his candidacy on Oct. 27. Republican National Committee chair Reince Priebus also endorsed Friday the candidacy of Dr. Ignacia "Acha" Demapan.

Sablan and Demapan are the only two candidates vying for the post of the CNMI's nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

This is only the third time in CNMI history that a delegate race is being held. The delegate post is

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MHS loses 14 MacBooks to burglars

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» Burglars strike same classrooms in 2 months

The video production classrooms at Marianas High School in Susupe were burglarized on Friday, just two months after burglar or burglars stole several laptops from the same rooms.

In the latest incident, 14 silver MacBook Pro 17-inch laptops, all worth

See MHS on Page 4

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Local

Fund trustee *ad litem*'s bill reaches $61K

»Razzano identifies Fund budget as source for interim payment

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

NMI Retirement Fund's trustee *ad litem* Joseph C. Razzano has requested for compensation in the total amount of $26,379.03 for the month of October. This request is on top of a still outstanding request for compensation for September totaling $34,620.80.

Razzano said the outstanding billing for both months now stands at $61,121.16.

The trustee *ad litem* did not indicate whether interest is included to reach the sum of $61,121.16.

Of the $26,379.03 that he requested, a total of $23,937.50 is for professional fees for Razzano and three other lawyers from the Civille & Tang law firm. The rest of the amount ($2,441.53) is for per diem, travel, and professional costs.

Razzano also earlier asked for $19,935.72 as compensation for the Fund's two other attorneys, Braddock J. Huesman and Daniel Berman.

Razzano said that the CNMI government filed a motion for reconsideration and objections to his request for compensation.

The trustee *ad litem* said due to the delays created by the filing of the motion for reconsideration, and to allow for a full briefing and hearing on all of the issues raised in the motion for reconsideration by all parties, he has identified an interim source of payment for administrative funds remaining in the Fund's 2012 budget.

Razzano said the acting Fund director, Lilian Pangelinan, has confirmed that, if approved by the court, the source of the $61,121.16 payment will come from the remaining 2012 Fund administrative budget, and that this payment will not impede the Fund's operations.

Razzano asked the court to approve an interim payment of $61,121.16 and require the CNMI government to reimburse the Fund immediately upon resolution of the motion for reconsideration, and if required by the court, with interest at 6 percent per annum.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood earlier ruled that the CNMI government shall be responsible for compensation and expenses for Razzano and all persons or entities employed or contracted by the trustee *ad litem* in carrying out his duties.

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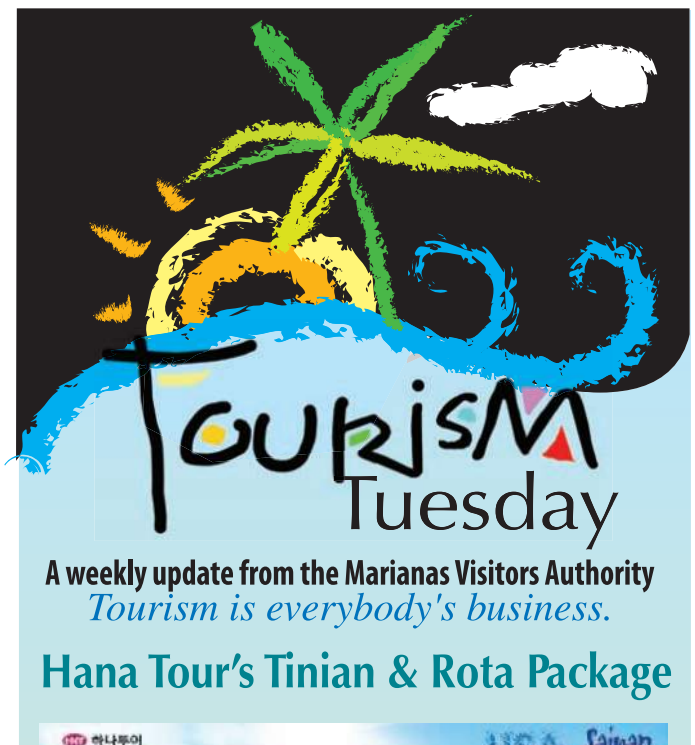
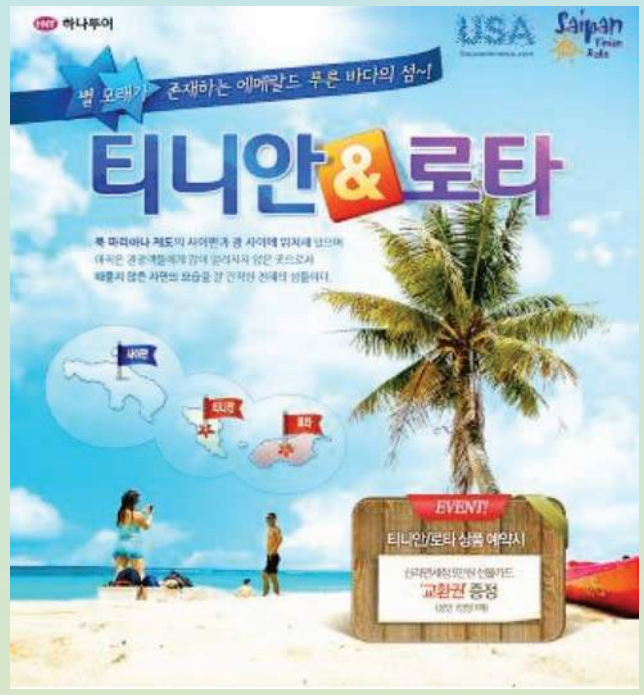

Tourism Tuesday
A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.
Hana Tour's Tinian & Rota Package



To help increase awareness of **Tinian** and Rota as leisure destinations, **Hana Tour** partnered with the **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** to promote and sell tour packages to these two Northern Mariana Islands.

The packages, sold in August and September 2012, offered free round-trip airfare between Saipan and Tinian or Rota during the sales period. Package extras also included a $50 Shila **Tax Free Shop** gift card and **Bojobo dolls**. The first 50 pax who availed of the package to Rota also received a complimentary tent, to better avail of the beautiful beaches on the island.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

'Respect voters' decision; hard to predict results'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said while he would like to expect most—if not all—of his Republican Party candidates to win today's mid-term elections, he said he will "respect whatever the people decide," a statement shared by other leaders and candidates from different political parties yesterday.

The governor and others also said it is hard to predict the outcome of today's polls.

"I cannot predict what will happen on Tuesday but like I said, of course, with the hard work that we already put in, we normally expect to be successful but I cannot say that the race will be this way or that way or close or not close. But I'm just ready to accept what the people decide," Fitial told *Saipan Tribune*.

While the GOP wants the election to focus on their candidates' qualifications in this year's race, all the other parties and independents have made this election a referendum on Fitial's leadership following the defeat of a resolution impeaching him for 16 allegations of corruption, neglect of duty, and felony.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan), who is seeking re-election, said he personally believes that today's election "is one, if not the most, crucial elections of all" because of corruption.

"It's a matter of whether to continue moving forward with corruption or we stay 'stop', we've had enough.' This decision will be made [today]. The people of the Commonwealth will make history [today]," he said.

Dela Cruz is among the House members who authored a resolution impeaching the governor for a host of allegations related to a sole-source $190.8-million diesel power purchase agreement, a no-bid ARRA management contract, escape of a federal inmate to give the governor a massage in the wee hours of the morning, and allowing then attorney general Edward T. Buckingham to continue holding his post despite violations of the Hatch Act and the use of law enforcement officers to allegedly shield the AG from being served a penal summons for criminal charges against him on the day he left Saipan, among other things.

Dela Cruz also called on voters to vote "yes" to a legislative initiative he authored, authorizing the election of a CNMI attorney general.

Right now, the governor appoints the AG. Also on the ballot are the pension obligation bond initiative and the Northern Marianas College mission statement initiative.

'Blindsided'

Oscar Rasa, who prides himself as a member of the Republican Party for over 35 years and is a member of the First Constitutional Convention, said it's "very hard" to predict the results of the 2012 polls but he believes there will be a considerable turnout.

"When economic condition gets worse, people usually stay home or go out but I think people will go out this time because there are different people running, parties [participating]," the Republican Party adviser said.

Rasa said voters need to make an informed decision.

"There will be no imposition, no nothing at all. Let the people decide. All we want to see is a fair and impartial election," he added.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the winners of the CNMI House of Representatives race should "plan how to solve our problems between now and January, not to plan an impeachment movement in January."

"Obviously, they're blindsided," Demapan told reporters.

He said Republican Party candidates are running for office not because they want to protect the governor but because they have the ideas and vision to move the CNMI forward.

Former lieutenant governor and representative Diego Benavente said last night that this election is critical "because the CNMI cannot afford to continue to live under this administration for two more years."

"We need to make the change today," he said, reiterating that voters should elect individuals who won't tolerate corruption in government. Benavente, also a former speaker, has been campaigning for so-called Independent Republicans, mostly co-authors of the impeachment resolution led by House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

'Division should end today'

Rep. Joe Palacios (R-Saipan), seeking a second term, said, "whatever the outcome of the election, the people should accept it."

"I hope the 18th Legislature should focus on the issues that we have—the hospital should be our main focus and the Retirement Fund. But instead of solving problems, we're adding more to the problems with this impeachment. It's creating division in the community. I hope that division ends [today], after the votes are counted. Do they believe that by impeaching the governor, it will solve the problems? It will only create bitterness between Chamorros and Carolinians," he said.

Non-Republican candidates and supporters reiterated that impeachment has nothing to do with race or ethnicity, but all to do with facts and evidence.

Floor leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) and Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), both seeking a second term, separately said voting is a "fundamental right" that people should never take for granted.

"It is important that all citizens go [out] and vote and let their voices be heard, to ensure that they choose the most qualified and proven individuals to represent them," Camacho said.

Santos also said the election result "should be accepted as it represents the voice of the majority of those who cast their votes."

'Didn't author it'

Former Republican Party chair Juan I. Tenorio said yesterday that the GOP used his name as "author" of an online petition asking U.S. Attorney for Guam and NMI Alicia Limtiaco to have Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) probed for alleged drug-related matters from decades ago, a petition that Benavente earlier described as "a smear campaign" and "an act of desperation" on the part of the GOP.

"I want to be on record, that I did not authorize anyone or the Republican Party to use my name in this online petition. I am not involved in this," he said, reiterating that he quit politics so he won't be involved in any kind of petition on an election season. He said though that he remains a GOP supporter.

Juan S. Reyes, a Republican House candidate, said at 8pm last night that if Tenorio does not want it, he, Reyes, will become the main author of the petition against Sablan.

Tenorio said other key Republican members were behind the use of his name and the launching of the petition against Sablan.

One of those is former speaker Pedro "Paduna" Deleon Guerrero who, in a separate interview, said yesterday that he did not have anything to do with the use of Tenorio's name.

"I'm also surprised about that," he added. "I'm not one of the movers [of that petition] but there was discussion about that."

The online petition has so far gathered 30 supporters as of 8pm last night.

Sablan's online public petition, meanwhile, gathered 610 signatures as of 8pm last night. Sablan launched a public petition urging U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to investigate corruption in the CNMI.

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USAO names district election officer for Guam, NMI

Assistant U.S. Attorney Marivic David has been appointed to lead the efforts of the U.S. Attorney's Office in connection with the Justice Department's nationwide Election Day Program for today's general elections.

U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco appointed David to serve as the District Election Officer for the Districts of Guam and the NMI, and in that capacity is responsible for overseeing the District's handling of complaints of election fraud and voting rights abuses, in consultation with Justice Department headquarters in Washington.

Limtiaco said, "Every citizen must be able to vote without interference or discrimination and to have that vote counted without it being stolen because of fraud. The Department of Justice will act promptly and aggressively to protect the integrity of the election process."

The Department of Justice has an important role in deterring election fraud and discrimination at the polls, and combating these violations whenever and wherever they occur.

The department's longstanding Election Day Program furthers these goals, and also seeks to ensure public confidence in the integrity of the election process by providing local points of contact within the department for the public to report possible election fraud and voting rights violations while the polls are open on election day.

Federal law protects against such crimes as intimidating or bribing voters, buying and selling votes, altering vote tallies, stuffing ballot boxes, and marking ballots for voters against their wishes or without their input. It also contains special protections for the rights of voters and provides that they can vote free from acts that intimidate or harass them. For example, actions of persons designed to interrupt or intimidate voters at polling places by questioning or challenging them, or by photographing or videotaping them, under the pretext that these are actions to uncover illegal voting may violate federal voting rights law. Further, federal law protects the right of voters to mark their own ballot or to be assisted by a person of their choice.

In order to respond to complaints of election fraud or voting rights abuses on Nov. 6, 2012, and to ensure that such complaints are directed to the appropriate authorities, David will be on duty in the District of Guam while the polls are open. David can be reached by the public at the following telephone number: (671) 472-7332 ext. 120.

In addition, the FBI will have special agents available in each field office and resident agency throughout the country to receive allegations of election fraud and other election abuses on election day. The local FBI field office can be reached by the public at (670) 322-6934.

Complaints about ballot access problems or discrimination can be made directly to the Civil Rights Division's Voting Section in Washington at 1-800-253-3931 or (202) 307-2767.

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco said, "Ensuring free and fair elections depends in large part on the cooperation of the American electorate. It is imperative that those who have specific information about discrimination or election fraud make that information available immediately to my Office, the FBI, or the Civil Rights Division." ***(USAO)***

MHS

From Page 1

over $19,500, were stolen, police said yesterday.

Police spokesman Jason Tarkong said the burglars raided the video production classrooms or media classrooms D-104 and D-105.

Tarkong said the last time the rooms were found secure was on Friday at 9:15pm, during the routine patrol of a security guard.

Later at 10:30pm, as the guard was making his rounds, he noticed that the exterior light by the two classrooms was off, though it had been working earlier. When the guard checked, he discovered that someone had loosened the bulb.

The guard found that the door in room D-104 was unlocked. He immediately called police and the teacher assigned at the classroom.

The 14 laptops, along with a green roller bag that was possibly used to transport the stolen computers, were found missing.

Police determined that the suspect or suspects entered the classrooms through a covered hole by prying the plywood.

Prior to this incident, on Sept. 2, a teacher discovered that media classroom D-104 had been burglarized and that five silver MacBook Pro 17-inch laptops worth $7,500 had been stolen.

The suspect or suspects gained entry into the classroom by pushing and breaking a fiberglass frame protecting the window.

The Department of Public Safety and NMI Crime Stoppers are seeking the community's assistance for information about this latest incident. Crime Stoppers offers up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest.

On Nov. 17 or 18, 2008, three men bludgeoned a security guard to death at the MHS campus, stole his wallet containing $300 cash along with his wristwatch, broke into several classrooms and stole laptops and cash.

The three men all pleaded guilty and were sent to prison.

LIST

From Page 1

one who would use his or her elected position not for personal gain but to help their constituency. She particularly dislikes candidates who instigate a smear campaign against others just to get the support of the community.

"The future of our islands—our future—lies in the hands of those who will be elected, and I firmly hope that all voters will choose to vote wisely and not be swayed by family or other people. If we can do that, then the Commonwealth will be in a far better place than it is now," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

This year's election follows an unprecedented wave of manifested public unrest due to corruption allegations and an unsuccessful impeachment bid, among others.

Jay Santos, who became a registered voter when he moved to Saipan in 1993 from Los Angeles, said in a separate interview that the Nov. 6 election will be "one of the most crucial elections in the history of the CNMI" which is why he is "very interested" to know whether or not people want change to be revealed in tomorrow's results.

The Precinct 5 voter took advantage of early voting as he and wife Joyce turned in their ballots less than two weeks ago due to work obligations, saying that he always does his homework before voting, researching about the candidates before making up his mind.

Although he did not disclose his votes, Santos said he has never voted because of family ties and emphasized that he sought candidates with "strong leadership" this year. He also wants leaders who "will seriously look at reducing the government, particularly the Legislature," to save money that can be channeled to other agencies with more pressing needs.

"I am very optimistic that people will want strong leaders that will help us get out of the current economic mess that we're in," said Santos. "I just hope everybody gets out and vote, no matter who their candidates are. It's a very important process in any democracy."

OBAMA

From Page 1

also the highest position that CNMI voters will decide on today.

Sablan, seeking a third term, is an independent caucusing with the Democrats in the U.S. Congress. Demapan runs under the Republican Party, chaired by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

"The choice in this race is clear. The people of the Northern Marianas have a congressman with four years' education in the workings of the U.S. House of Representatives and the seniority that earned him Ranking Member on the subcommittee with responsibility for insular affairs," Obama said in a statement released by Sablan's campaign.

Sablan said he is thankful for Obama's endorsement.

"I am looking forward to going back to Washington to work with the President and to fight on behalf of the hardworking men and women of the Northern Mariana Islands," Sablan said.

Obama also said, "Sablan is a public servant in every sense of the word."

"He's a hardworking, honest advocate for Northern Mariana Islands families. I'm proud to support Congressman Kilili. He stood at my side as we have worked to help middle class families get ahead and put our economy back on the right track," Obama said, adding that he is "proud to support Kilili."

He also spoke of Sablan's proven ability to work with everyone in Washington, "always putting the interests of his constituents ahead of any other concern;" his honesty, humbleness, and extreme hard work.

"We need leaders in Congress who will do what is right for American families, and we have that leader in Congressman Sablan," Obama added.

Priebus, in his Nov. 2 letter endorsing Demapan, said Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney and vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan "will need a strong Republican voice in the House of Representatives from the Northern Mariana Islands, as well as a majority in the NMI House and Senate."

"I am proud to endorse the Republican ticket in the Northern Mariana Islands, and the candidate for United States Delegate, Dr. Ignacia Tudela Demapan," Priebus said.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment on Priebus' endorsement, said: "Dr. Demapan is tremendously grateful and humbled by the endorsement of the RNC."

"This is a significant indication of the many good things that can be beneficial to the Commonwealth through the relationship with national Republican leaders," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Priebus said the RNC will do all it can in these final days to ensure Republican victories up and down the ballot.

"The Northern Mariana Islands can help us start Election Day off with a victory," Priebus said.

The CNMI is about a day ahead of Washington, D.C.

Clinton, in his Oct. 27 endorsement of Sablan, said he and Sablan "agree that America is a 'we're all in this together' society. Whether I live in my home state or in the Northern Mariana Islands, we are all part of the American family."

Clinton said Sablan "has assured that your students, teachers and schools receive greater federal assistance," and has helped "to increase funding for health care in your islands."

"And he has brought you additional support from Washington for the water, sewer, transportation, and electrical infrastructure that is so important for economic development," Clinton said.

Sablan said he is "honored" that Clinton would support his re-election bid.

VOTERS

From Page 1

each island.

In a visit to the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center yesterday, all three machines—with the bigger and faster one from Alabama—were already installed, including the ballot boxes for each polling place. The center will serve as the tabulation station after today's mid-term elections.

As early as 5am today, election supervisors in every polling station, with police escorts, will pick up the ballot boxes at the multi-purpose center on their way to polling sites. The commission rented two 50-seater buses that will transport these ballot boxes—along with the poll workers—to and from polling sites.

All polling places will be open from 7am through 7pm today. Guerrero said that as early as 3pm today, the agency's board members will be at the multi-purpose center to pick up absentee ballots by 4pm and process them in preparation for the tabulation, which is expected to start soon after the closing of polling stations.

Each political party—Republican, Covenant, and Democratic parties—will have three representatives each for every polling place. Representatives from the Office of the Attorney General and Office of the Public Auditor are expected to do regular rounds in all polling places.

The commission pays each poll worker $50.

In charge

Guerrero also clarified that it is the commission and its board that are overseeing the election process, not the OAG as what many claimed. He said this was in reaction to concerns that acting attorney general Viola Alepuyo, the wife of Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho, has a conflict of interest if she takes part in the monitoring of the tabulation process.

"The CEC is the one in charge to oversee the entire election process and not the OAG. That's very clear in the law. Its participation is limited to election irregularities that we may refer to them. Both OAG and OPA only provide assistance to us and only serve as our additional eyes during election," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Rules

Guerrero reminded all candidates and their supporters to respect the election law that mandates, among others, the ban on cell phones and cameras inside polling places and the 300-foot distance from the perimeter of the polling place.

Guerrero pointed out that the ban on phones and cameras has been in place since the start, including limiting the distance where candidates' supporters can set up tents outside polling sites. He clarified that the 300-foot radius starts from the "perimeter" and not from the "door" of the polling site.

"We ask everybody to respect the law…because we will enforce it," he said.

Temporary personnel

Since it began working on the absentee ballots, the commission brought in eight "temporary" personnel to assist them. Guerrero disclosed that the commission has five full-time employees being assisted by the temporary employees until the end of the election.

Meantime, Guerrero disclosed that the commission expects poll workers to return from the Northern Islands today. The team conducted early voting on Pagan and Alamagan since Saturday. The commission chartered a boat to send the team north.

'Come out and vote!'

Guerrero expects no major challenges in today's election but stressed that the commission stands ready to address any concerns they may encounter.

"We're pretty much ready for [today]…so I just want our people to come out and vote," he said.

The commission board, he said, also has a quorum, with seven members present.

Commission records show that there are a total of 16,771 registered voters in the CNMI—Saipan has 13,606 voters, Tinian has 1,467, and Rota has 1,698.

As of Oct. 29, the commission had 1,840 absentee voters who are included in the overall registered voters of the CNMI.

Candidates and polling places

This year's mid-term election has the following positions up for grabs: 20 seats in the House of Representatives; three seats in the Senate; three seats in the Board of Education; all positions in municipal councils; retention of judges: and one position for U.S. delegate to Congress.

There are also three legislative initiatives for the voters to ratify: House Legislative Initiative 17-2, which will make the attorney general an elected position; Senate Legislative Initiative 17-12, which would allow Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents to revise NMC's mission statement; and House Legislative Initiative 17-5, which will allow the government to float a bond.

Polling stations for each precinct include the Hopwood Junior High School, Dandan Elementary School, and Koblerville Youth Center for Precinct 1 voters. This precinct covers San Antonio, San Vicente, and Koblerville.

For Precinct 2, which include voters in Chalan Kanoa and Susupe, the official polling station is the Joeten Kiyu Public Library, while the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and the Garapan Elementary School's northern side will accommodate voters from Precinct 3 covering Oleai and Garapan.

For Precinct 4 voters, official polling stations are the Tanapag Youth Center, the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, Jesus P. Mafnas Legislative Building, and the Northern Islands. Precinct 4 voters are from Tanapag, San Roque, Capitol Hill, and the Northern Islands.

The Kagman Community Center will be the official polling site for voters in Precinct 5, covering residents of Kagman, while Tinian Elementary School remains the official polling station for Precinct 6. For Rota, the Northern Marianas College campus will accommodate voters on the island.

TES names five most outstanding employees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Editor's Note: This story is part of a series of articles that Saipan Tribune *is publishing in support of the celebration of Education Month by the Public School System.*

JENNIFER SAN NICOLAS
Teacher of the Year

TERESITA S. LAZARO
Teacher Aide of the Year

CARMEN DLC. FARRELL
Support Staff of the Year
Administrative Services

JULITA DIAZ
Support Staff of the Year
Trades and Maintenance

VICTOR LINAN
Support Staff of the Year
Pupil Transportation

Tinian Elementary School has named five individuals as its most outstanding employees and they will now vie for Public School System's search for the CNMI Teacher of the Year, Teacher Aide of the Year, and Support Staff of the Year, among other awards.

Tinian Elementary School principal Dionne Santos disclosed that teachers and employees chose Jennifer San Nicolas as their Teacher of the Year.

San Nicolas has been with the school for 11 years and currently teaches a multi-age class of second and third graders. Her selection for the honor makes it back-to-back as she also received the same recognition last year.

San Nicolas holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Guam and a master's degree in International Teaching from Framingham State College.

Hailed as the school's Teacher Aide of the Year is Teresita S. Lazaro, who has been a teacher aide for 12 years. This marks the fifth time Lazaro was recognized by the school. She holds an associate degree from the Northern Marinas College and currently provides support services to students with special needs in fourth to sixth grades.

Three other employees were recognized as this year's Support Staff of the Year. They are Carmen DLC. Farrell, for administrative services; Julita Diaz, for trades and maintenance; and Victor Linan, for pupil transportation section.

Farrell has been an administrative officer at Tinian Elementary School for many years. She was also the school's Support Staff of the Year last school year. Farrell holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the Northern Marianas College.

Diaz is Tinian Elementary School's lone custodian and, like Farrell, has been recognized twice by the school for her dedication and commitment.

Linan has also been with Tinian Elementary for several years. This nomination is one of many recognitions that Linan has received as Support Staff of the Year for Pupil Transportation.

First batch of refund checks disbursed to Fund members

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Of the over 1,000 applications received by the NMI Retirement Fund for the withdrawal of retirement contributions, only a small fraction has so far received their refund checks to date.

As of yesterday, the pension agency had disbursed a total of 94 refund checks to government employees who chose to avail of the benefit as provided by Public Law 17-82. That law allows members to withdraw the full amount of their contributions from the retirement program without separating from government. It gives the Fund only 30 days to pay out 25 percent of the members' contributions plus interest. The remaining 75 percent will be paid out within 90 days. It also allows an employee to roll over their defined benefit contributions into the defined contribution plan and become a member of that program.

The agency started receiving refund applications from members on Sept. 17, 2012. The number of application totaled 1,733 as of Oct. 23, which is more than half of the estimated number of active members of the Fund, which is about 2,800 to 3,000.

Fund records show that the 94 refund checks were the first batch of check payments and that they were released last Friday, Nov. 2. *Saipan Tribune* learned that recipients are all from Saipan who belonged to the first group of people who filed their application.

A longtime employee at the public hospital was among those who received the first checks on Friday. She shared with *Saipan Tribune* that she was finally relieved upon receiving her money. The employee plans to place the cash in a more reliable investment instrument.

Based on the Fund's website, only over 200 applications have been marked with "approval by administrator" and "certification of funds/payment processing" to date. This means the rest of the 1,733 applications are either being reviewed or are awaiting review by the Fund.

Many members earlier expressed disappointment over the seemingly long wait for their checks, which they had expected to be released at least within the 30-day period as stipulated in the law.

Meantime, Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) said yesterday that she has yet to receive a formal response from acting Fund administrator Lillian Pangelinan on the matter she raised concerning applicants from Rota.

Santos earlier disclosed that many active members on Rota are complaining over what they described as a "huge disparity" in the numbering system of the Fund after she was informed by residents that they were only assigned numbers after all applications from Saipan came in.

Santos, in her letter to Pangelinan, said that for the sake of equality, she strongly urges the Fund to renumber the applications received from Rota according to the date and time it was originally submitted.

ARC sets safety trainings

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct health and safety trainings in Adult and Pediatric First Aid, CPR, AED in November.

- First Aid: Nov. 7, from 6pm to 9pm
- Pediatric (Infant & Child) CPR/AED: Nov. 8, from 6pm to 9pm
- Adult First Aid/CPR/AED: Nov. 17, from 8am to 1pm

To register or for more information about the courses offered, contact the NMI Chapter at 234-3459. ***(ARC)***

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21 Pacific islanders take part in leadership program

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Twenty-one individuals from different Pacific islands take part in a U.S. Department of the Interior-funded Executive Leadership Development Program at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan yesterday.

Twenty-one individuals out of over 100 applicants from different Pacific islands are currently on Saipan to take part in a U.S. Department of the Interior-funded Executive Leadership Development Program that aims to develop and retain qualified, skilled staff that will become future leaders of their respective governments.

Program participants from the CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, Palau, the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia's Pohnpei, Chuuk, and Yap develop their skills in leadership, management, government finance, procurement, and auditing, among other things.

The Saipan phase of the program started yesterday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

From the CNMI, the ELDP participants are press secretary Angel Demapan, Marianne Teregeyo from the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Mark Rabauliman from the Department of Commerce, and Rima Yamagishi from the NMI Retirement Fund.

The ELDP is managed by the Graduate School USA's Pacific Islands Training Initiative, with funding assistance from Interior's Office of Insular Affairs.

Stephen Latimer, International Institute program manager at Graduate School USA, said yesterday that the 21 participants have been working in government for years, "some of them are in management and supervisory position now" and some are on their way to filling those positions.

He said the program helps better prepare these future leaders by developing their skills in leadership, management, government finance, procurement, and auditing, among other things.

"We had over a hundred applications for those 21 positions, so only about one out of every five or six are selected," he told reporters in an interview during a program break yesterday morning.

Each program has four phases. The first phase was in Guam in July; the second is the one being held on Saipan; third phase will be in Pohnpei in February 2013; and the fourth, in June 2013 in Hawaii.

"So the same group gets together four different times throughout the year to work on various aspects of leadership, and their own management, leadership style," Latimer said.

Latimer said the leadership training this week has nothing to do with the elections, and the timing is just coincidental.

With Latimer are folks from Graduate School USA and contractor Glenn Furuya from the Hawaii-based Leadership Works.

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The first week of tennis action kicks off at American Memorial Park on Thursday, November 15 and will continue to November 18. Second week games start on Sunday, November 21, 23, 24 and end on the 25th. Games will be played at the AMP, Fiesta Resort and Spa, Kanoa Resort, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and the Pacific Islands Club.
Join the games and participate in junior long court singles and doubles, adult mixed doubles, adult singles, and Under-10 singles and doubles!
Registration forms are available at the 2nd Floor JP Center (look for Becky Tenorio) or at the AMP Clubhouse bulletin board.
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TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of	**CIVIL ACTION NO.12-0257**
ISABEL IGUEL MARLIK, Deceased.	**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, that Bank Pacific, Ltd., has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Isabel Iguel Marlik, deceased; and that the said petition will be heard by the Court on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m.

Notice is also given to all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Isabel Iguel Marlik, deceased, and to all persons claiming an interest in said estate, that they shall file such claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days from the first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., the Law Offices of Michael White, LLC, P.O. Box 5222 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, attorney for Petitioner. All claims not so filed shall be forever barred.

DATED, this 1st day of November, 2012:

/s/ Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of	**CIVIL ACTION NO.12-0259**
ENRIQUE ILO WABOL, Deceased.	**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, that the Northern Mariana Islands Housing Corporation has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Enrique Ilo Wabol; and that the said petition will be heard by the Court on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m.

Notice is also given to all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Enrique Ilo Wabol, deceased, and to all persons claiming an interest in said estate, that they shall file such claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days from the first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., the Law Offices of Michael White, LLC, P.O. Box 5222 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, attorney for Petitioner. All claims not so filed shall be forever barred.

DATED, this 1st day of November, 2012:

/s/ Clerk of Court

Dumping of trash on PDM scored

Some businesses along Paseo de Marianas in Garapan continue to lack trash disposal systems, resulting in these establishments dumping their trash on garbage bins in the area.

According to PDM Promoters Inc.'s representative Sonia Siwa, their group, which conducts monthly cleanups in Garapan, sent out letters to these businesses about two weeks ago to inform them about the removal of the trash bins.

PDM Promoters has complained about trash dumped in these bins after their cleanup on the first or second Saturday of the month, saying that the trash are not from tourists or residents that stroll along the area.

Siwa explained that the removal of trash bins resulted in this illegal dumping practice of many business establishments along Paseo de Marianas.

In the letter, Siwa said they asked these businesses to provide their own garbage containers and maintain cleanliness in front of their respective establishments.

Despite the request, there are still some businesses that are uncooperative, according to Siwa. Without the trash bins that used to be provided in the area, these businesses dispose of their trash using the ashtray bins provided for smoking visitors of Paseo de Marianas.

Siwa called on the cooperation of these businesses to keep Garapan litter-free, not only to protect the environment but also to promote tourism, which is the island's number one industry. She also sought the help of the local government in addressing the issue. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

Johnson willing to join Fund settlement meeting

Retiree Betty Johnson is willing to join a conference intended to settle her lawsuit against the NMI Retirement Fund, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and other co-defendants.

Johnson, through counsels Robert Hatch, Bruce L. Jorgensen, and Stephen C. Woodruff, told the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday that she is amenable to participating in a settlement conference.

The lawyers said Johnson does not oppose the Fund's motion told hold a pretrial settlement conference.

The lawyers said the plaintiff agrees with the Fund that the court should order the parties in the lawsuit to participate in a settlement conference before Hawaii chief bankruptcy judge Robert Faris.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood recently asked Johnson and the defendants in her lawsuit—Fund, Gov. Fitial, the CNMI government and others—if they are amenable to a settlement conference.

The judge issued the order after the Fund board of trustees, through trustee *ad litem* Joseph C. Razzano, filed a motion for a pretrial settlement conference.

The judge disclosed that Hawaii chief bankruptcy judge Robert Faris has communicated with her his willingness to serve as the settlement judge in this case.

In her lawsuit, Johnson asked the court to order the Fund and the CNMI government to collect Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo's judgment. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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PRECINCT 2
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PRECINCT 4
IGUEL Sylvestre Ilo
CAMACHO George Norita

PRECINCT 3
RIOS Roy Taisacan
REYES Juan Sablan
SAURES Jose Pua
OGUMORO Felicidad Taman
MARATITA David Reyes
CASTRO Jesus Manibusan

PRECINCT 5
BASA Ramon Sablan
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PRECINCT 7
SANTOS Teresita Apatang

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DPL, Finance sued for alleged tax waiver

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

"We must end corruption!"

So says Ramon K. Quichocho, lawyer for Pacific Investment and Development Corp., which is suing the departments of Public Lands and Finance for allegedly granting a tax waiver on the tax obligations of E-Land Group of Korea.

E-Land is reportedly the new majority owner of Coral Ocean Point Resort Club.

Quichocho said the people of the CNMI are sick and tired of secret and under-the-table deals. "We must put an end to secret sole-source contracts because such scheme is unjust and is not fair to other potential investors and other businesses in the CNMI, and continues to erode whatever remaining public trust and confidence," the lawyer said.

Pacific Investment and Development Corp. is suing DPL and Finance for taxpayer's right of action: Illegal expenditure of public funds and breach of fiduciary duty.

Quichocho asked the Superior Court to issue a temporary restraining order and preliminary and permanent injunction to stop the defendants from allegedly waiving overdue taxes and other obligations.

According to the complaint, Suwaso Corp., which used to own Coral Ocean Point Hotel and Golf Course, failed to pay its tax obligations for many years and failed to make good on several promises under the lease agreement.

In fact, Quichocho said, DPL and Finance both gave Suwaso Corp. notices of breach of lease conditions and breach of a promissory note that Suwaso had inked with Finance.

Yet surprisingly, Quichocho said, on Sept. 28, 2012, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial announced that E-Land is now the majority owner of Coral Ocean Point.

On information and belief, Quichocho said, Finance waived the assumed tax obligations of E-Land.

"All of a sudden, no more mention of the millions of dollars liabilities/obligations of Suwaso Corp., when E-Land allegedly took over," the lawyer said.

Quichocho said this scheme has negatively affected and continues to erode public trust and confidence, "because it is seemingly apparent that the waiver of the overdue taxes and other obligations were done to favor E-Land to take over Coral Ocean Point."

"Such scheme was not lawfully authorized," he added.

COP is located on a 735,023 square meter property at Agingan Point, Saipan.

DPS to deploy officers for today's polls

The Department of Public Safety will be deploying police officers to maintain peace and order during today's mid-term elections.

DPS spokesman Jason Tarkong said there will be enough officers and that acting commissioner Aniceto Ogumoro will oversee the operation while Capt. Lawrence M. Camacho has been designated overall commander.

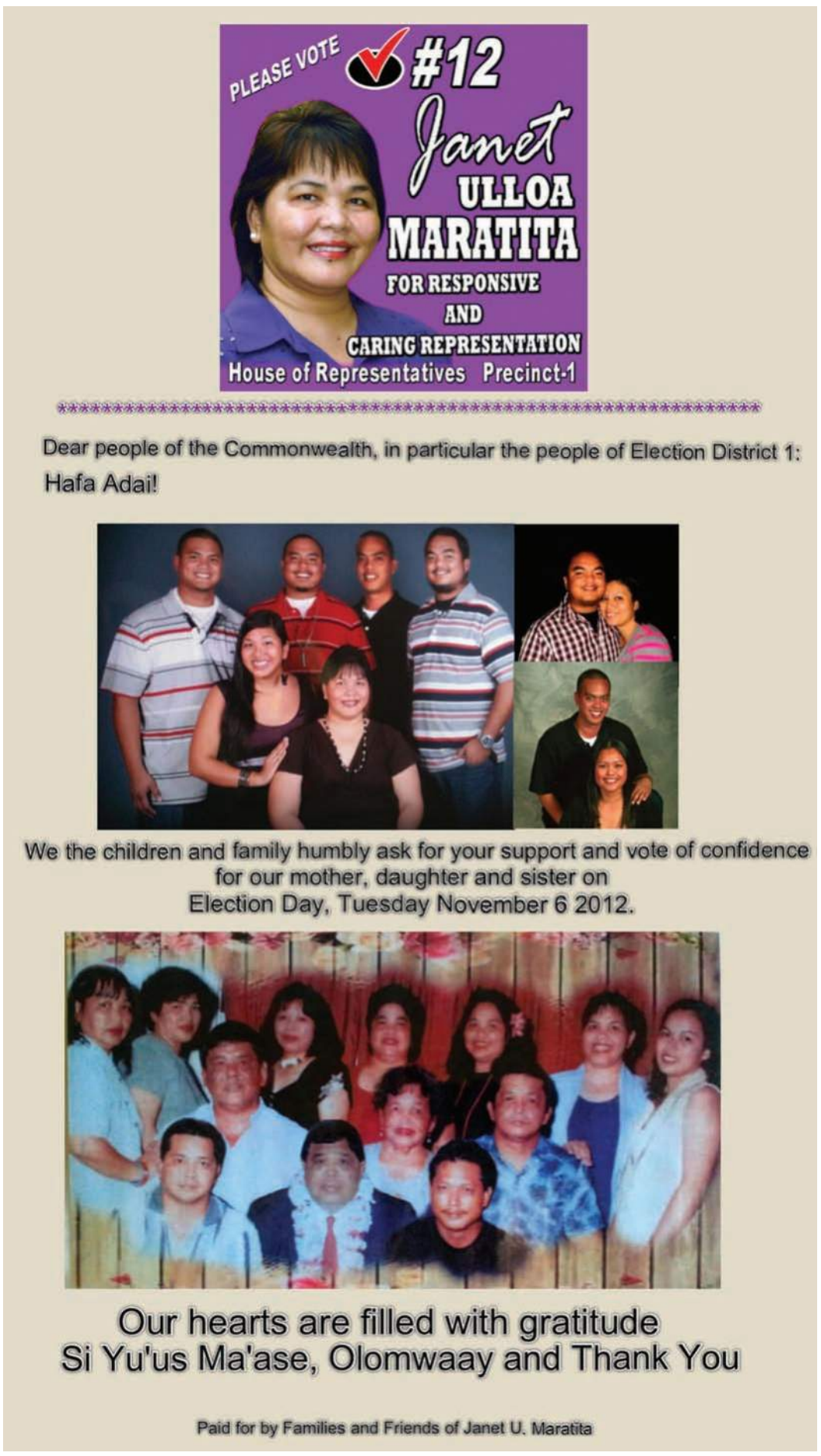
Tarkong urged voters, candidates, and their supporters to observe election rules in order to have a smooth and orderly election.

Tarkong advised supporters and candidates not to block the roads near polling precincts.

He asked motorists to drive slowly and with caution in the vicinity of polling places.

Tarkong said the DPS' elite Tactical Response Enforcement Team will not be activated unless a situation calls for it.

Officers will coordinate with poll staff in escorting the ballot boxes from polling precincts to the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe where the tabulation and counting of votes will be held. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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NMC to host free Cash for College workshop on Nov. 10

The Northern Marianas College and the College Access Challenge Grant program will be hosting a free "Cash for College" workshop aimed at assisting students and their parents maximize scholarship opportunities that are available to students seeking to obtain a college education.

The free workshop will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, in Building A at the NMC As Terlaje campus. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am and 3pm.

Participants will be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Aid, and the CNMI Scholarship.

Staff members from the college's Office of Admissions and Records will also be present to provide information and assistance with the NMC admission application process.

It is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g. a valid U.S. passport, copy of valid application for a U.S. passport, birth certificate, or green card), an official transcript from high school (at least three official copies), tax forms, and proof of CNMI residency for 2010 and 2011, including proof of residency. Applicants for SHEFA should bring a valid U.S. passport, a voter registration card, and proof of vote cast. ***(NMC)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 6, 2000

CDA pitched in $26M to NMI economy

The Commonwealth Development Authority has consistently provided millions of dollars in fresh capital to local entrepreneurs, making the agency one of the major factors which facilitated robust growth of the CNMI economy. Records disclosed an increasing trend in the amount of loan agreements sealed by the government-owned lending agency with its clients in a four-year period covering 1996 to 1999, reaching over $26 million. However, economic upheavals brought about by the financially devastating Asian currency crisis had taken its toll on the total volume of credit agreements approved by the development authority last year.

MVA to step up marketing campaign

With the resumption of Nagoya-Saipan daily direct flights by Continental Micronesia next year, the Marianas Visitors Authority will carry out an aggressive marketing campaign which will complement the airline's efforts in promoting the CNMI in Japan. Acting Managing Director Vicky Benavente has said MVA will focus its efforts in creating awareness about the CNMI as an ideal destination in the Pacific. Ms. Benavente said the Northern Marianas will be promoted through fliers, brochures, newspapers and magazines. MVA will continue to hold familiarization tours for different media outlets and seminar for travel agents.

Nov. 6, 2001

CDC readies team against smallpox

Although there has been no reported incident of smallpox infection yet, the federal government is already training medical teams that may be dispatched to US states and territories - including the CNMI—in case of a smallpox attack by terrorists. This was disclosed in a press statement by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an agency of the US Department of Health and Human Services. "CDC is taking steps to protect the public's health in case of an intentional release of smallpox. Teams—which include physicians, epidemiologists, laboratorians—have been vaccinated against smallpox and are attending readiness-training at CDC to identify and contain smallpox outbreaks," the press statement said.

Deeper study on proposed measure urged

A ranking health official has cited the need for a deeper study on the proposed measure seeking to allow Japanese doctors to practice in the CNMI. "If I were the governor, I think I would spend some time talking to Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez about the implications for health care for non-Japanese on Saipan, because major change like this can have far-reaching effects," said Dr. Richard Brostrom, Public Health medical director. "I think in principle I support it, but the specifics in bringing in foreign doctors can be very complicated, so I would want to get more details about what kind of physicians do we need to come here, what are their credentials and qualifications, what are the medications that they're going to prescribe, are they going to be allowed to see local residents, are they going to be allowed to take care of Japanese residents at the CHC, or do they plan to have a foreign-based hospital on Saipan," Brostrom said.

Nov. 6, 2002

Rota: Where's our emergency money?

The typhoon season may be over, but the rehabilitation efforts to address the destruction of typhoon Chata'an last July and the issues surrounding it have not ended. Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona yesterday asked the Office of Public Auditor to conduct an investigation on what happened to the appropriated money for the Typhoon Chata'an Emergency Fund amounting to about $600,000. Manglona said the money has been missing and remains unaccounted. "The bottom line is that the finance department transfers no money. Please treat this as an emergency matter, not a routine funding shortage. Please, where is our money?" said Manglona in a letter to Gov. Juan N. Babauta.

Privatization of some CUC services starts

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation has began privatizing some of its services to keep a more manageable load and promote efficiency in the delivery of services, according to CUC Board Chair Frank Guerrero. "We've put out a request for proposal for certain services. We've actually began privatizing," Guerrero said in an interview yesterday. He said the CUC board has favored the entry of private contractors to handle certain services mainly involving water and sewer.

Two Saipan schools participate in Lions poster contest

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Marianas Lions Club and Saipan Unity Lions Club will sponsor two public elementary schools to participate in this year's Lions International Peace Poster Contest.

Students of Garapan and Koblerville elementary schools will have a chance to submit their artwork for the poster contest that encourages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace, said Lion Paul Madriaga.

Madriaga said that Lions clubs around the word sponsor the contest in local schools and youth groups each year. Over four million children from nearly 100 countries have participated in the contest in the last 25 years.

The contest involves an original theme incorporating peace and participants are allowed to use a variety of media such as charcoal, crayon, pencil, and paint to express the theme in unique works that also express the young artists' life experiences and culture.

The theme for the 2012-13 Lions International Peace Poster Contest is "Imagine Peace." Poster entries will be judged based on originality, artistic merit, and expression of the theme.

"The local contest winner from each school will receive certificates of participation," Madriaga said.

Deadline to submit entries is on Nov. 13.

According to Madriaga, the local level winners will advance to the district level for judging on Nov. 15 and will represent the district at the international level on Dec. 15.

At the international level, judges from the art, peace, youth, education, and media communities will select one grand prize winner who will receive $5,000 and a trip to the 35th Annual Lions Day with the United Nations on Feb. 1, 2013. The grand prize winner will go to the special awarding ceremony with two family members and the sponsoring club president.

Additionally, 23 merit award winners will also be selected and each will receive $500 and a certificate of achievement.

The grand winner of the 2011-12 poster contest, which had the theme "Children Know Peace," was 13-year-old Trisha Co Reyes, who was sponsored by the Manila Centennial Lions Club. One of the 23 Merit Award winners that year, 12-year-old Jonathan Metra, was sponsored by the Guam Latte Stone.

For more information, call Madriaga at 287-4501 or Lion Boyet Escober at 286-4444.

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Siloam 7 Market robbery

NMI Crime Stoppers is seeking the community's assistance for information on a robbery that occurred at the Siloam 7 Market in Afetnas village.

On Wednesday morning, Oct. 31, 2012, at about 9:30am, the owner of the store, an Asian female, 42, was inside the establishment when the suspect, described as male, wearing a white T-shirt, black shorts, and white bandanna covering his face, approached the cashier counter.

The suspect jumped over the glass counter and attempted to open the cash register. The frightened victim locked herself in a room and dialed 911. The police arrived but the suspect was already gone. The victim unlocked the door and told police what happened. The cash register was on the floor with about $300 missing from the register. The victim was not injured during the commission of the crime.

DPS and NMI Crime Stoppers need your help. Contact the NMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use its website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net. NMI Crime Stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(NMI Crime Stoppers)***

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Weekly Raffle Winners

PRIZE	TICKET NUMBER	NAME
GC- Overnight Stay for 2 @ Kanoa Resort	3748	Nick Carreon
GC- Sunday Brunch for 2 @ ISLA Cafe	2321	Ronald Villafria
GC- Lunch Buffet for 2 @ World Cafe	0473	Frank Gibson
GC- fr. Cosmos - $20.00	7275	Sunny Loma
GC- fr. D&Q - $20.00	1111	Danny Ponce
GC- fr. D&Q - $20.00	4536	Fushun Meng
GC- Dinner Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	7849	Bolo Power
GC- Dinner Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	10205	Debbie Winkfield
GC- Lunch Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	0728	Froilan De Leon
GC- Lunch Buffet for 1 @ ISLA Cafe	8221	Vince Babauta

Winners must present their coupons to the Kanoa Resort front desk to receive prize.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

The truth hard to dig up amid all the attack ads

Truth took a holiday this election season as the candidates plumped themselves up and tried to stick a needle in their opponents. Nothing new there, of course. But the hedging, exaggerating, prevaricating and outright lying does seem more pronounced—perhaps because, courtesy of the U.S. Supreme Court, so much more money is available outside the campaigns to put up sleazy advertising.

The resulting noise, driven by the political consultants, turns off voters even if they turn off the television—which they should.

Take this ad from Mitt Romney, the Republican presidential candidate. The ad claims:

"Obama took GM and Chrysler into bankruptcy and sold Chrysler to Italians who are going to build Jeeps in China. Mitt Romney will fight for every American job."

As Glenn Kessler, the fact-checker at The Washington Post, pointed out, it's usually a sign of a sketchy ad when it's not announced beforehand. The ad, combined with Romney's misstatements on the campaign trail, earned him Kessler's highest dishonor: four Pinocchios.

It's because Chrysler is not "thinking of moving all production to China." Fiat, which owns a controlling stake in the company, is planning to start building Jeeps in China again. But Chrysler is adding production there and not shifting production from North America. In an unusual move, Chrysler denied the charge in a statement. "Jeep has no intention of shifting production of its Jeep models out of North America to China. It's simply reviewing the opportunities to return Jeep output to China for the world's largest auto market," the statement said.

But President Barack Obama's ads haven't been much better. One of his ads earned three long noses from Kessler last month. The president's campaign used a cropped video clip from an older ad to claim that Romney backed a law that outlawed abortion in all instances, even after a rape or incest. Despite Romney's flip-flops on this issue—and many others—the Republican has said over and over during the 2012 campaign that abortions should be legal in cases of rape, incest and when the mother's life is in danger.

The Romney ad is running in parts of northwestern Ohio—auto country—and he's obviously targeting some of the few folks in that crucial state who either are still undecided or haven't voted yet.

"I see this more as turnout game than a persuasion ad," Patrick Haney, a political science professor at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, told The Washington Post. "I take it as an indication that they believe they're behind . . . So they might as well be a little riskier and on the edge."

The Obama ad was a counter to Romney's earlier gains among female voters.

But knowing that there is a strategy behind the ads doesn't make the ads any easier to take.

Which is why we have to sympathize with little Abigael Evans, a Colorado 4-year-old, who started crying after listening to National Public Radio coverage of the campaign in the car on the way home from day care. Her tearful complaint: "I'm tired of Bronco Bamma and Mitt Romney."

Us, too, Abigael. Us, too.

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Hafa'adai, Tirow, Aloha, Yokwe, Whassup!

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

The day of reckoning has come. We trust that the Rising Tide's horde of nonpartisan election observer-volunteers is in place to monitor the election process in the CNMI. They might learn a thing or two about the efficiency and effectivity of the process. Might even let us know about it. In any case, a nonpartisan presence in a heretofore adversarial and divisive community event is a hopeful sign of the direction we are taking. We support the growth of the tribe!

Hopefully, our registered voters are taking the time to exercise their responsibility to cast their votes. Citizenship has become the skeptics' punching bag of late, and the percentage of those who make it to the polls, voters and observers, mirrors the state of participation in this republican process of choosing representatives. Democracy as the meaningful engagement of all sits by the wayside.

If our reading of the current pulse is close to accurate, the election will also reflect the popular sentiment regarding Gov. Ben Fitial's demonstrated accountability to his constituency. Or, the absence of one, some would quickly add. The recent impeachment process against the governor revealed a divided line in the Legislature, and the voters' response will reveal if our representatives really represent the actual voters' sentiment, one way or the other.

Expanding the political process beyond the partisan line is, of course, the task of communal decision-making. Were we to view the social process as involving three dynamics, the sustenance pole we would label the economic, the cultural being the significating pole, the political would be the organizing pole.

In a rational scheme, the political as an organizing pole is about establishing order—defense of the sovereign realm from external danger, domestic tranquility among residents, and a legal corpus to regulate rights and behaviors. To establish order requires structures of justice—a viable legislative consensus, equitable adjudicating procedures, and accountable executive authority. Equity and order within a community is for the sake of common welfare that secures every one's existence, practices political freedoms, and lends significant venues of engagement for all. As all rationale maps do, they provide direction as an analytical tool, not pictures of reality.

(You might guess that I teach social studies, particularly on the social process. I taught 6th grade at PSS focusing on ancient civilizations. It was heavy on the cultural pole of wisdom, style, and symbols. I came to Shenyang Aerospace U to lecture in Economics—resources, production, and distribution.)

Now, back to the political pole of our rational map applied to Commonwealth local politics. We are weak on a functioning legislative consensus, anchoring on the literary and less on customary practice. Executive authority hinges on power and status, in the current case, perceived to be whimsical, if not altogether criminal in its habitual use of emergency powers.

A colleague is less charitable. He says that the Legislature recycles the same manure and the executive is draped with shit. The Judiciary has its head up in the sky cogitating the merits of Latin and English precedence and country western TT procedures, rather than on the virtues of common sense. Change is nothing but a Russian roulette with dancers in all branches of governance only changing partners, do-si-do. No one ever questions the fact that decision-making seems to fall by default to bodies that refuses to make them, or make them totally unrelated to the mathematics of reality. It is not enough that citizens get mad, he adds. It is time that citizens create new venues for political participation.

Whatever objections one might have of Glen Hunter/Tina Sablan and their ilk, their effort is gnawing at the flesh of the matter—citizens' participation in the function of governance! But as diagnosis does not guarantee cure, prognosis involves a lot of work, actual and imaginal. Thus, those who organize "for" more than "against" in the Commonwealth face a formidable organizing challenge when addressing what next to do after the elections.

For now, the task is to the polls. Divisiveness has crept into even clan gatherings. This is fine. It is not so when we allow divisiveness to be adversarial rather than just not sharing the same sentiment, or not viewing things from the same perspective, nor heading in the same direction. If we allow divisiveness to take charge of us, rather than choose to be in charge of it, then we, as a community, fail ourselves.

Should the voters choose to make Uncle Ben's perspective a minority opinion, it merely begs, nay, it intensifies the question of governance. That requires better-attended town meetings, larger deliberative circles, and wider collegial roundtables. We mean ordinary folks willing to take the time rather than leaving it to lawyers and professional politicos to practice a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The power is in your hands

As important as this election is, the worst possible outcome should not deter us from fighting for a better future for our children. And if the election is a victory for the independent-minded candidates as we are hoping, then they must know that we will hold them accountable as well. All leaders in office must answer to the people and they must remember to be fair, open, and honest. As leaders, they must remember to uphold all CNMI laws at all times, and not to ignore them when it is convenient.

Because our leaders are elected by the people, they should never forget that their loyalty should remain with their constituents and not their governor/political party president. And if our leaders wish to imitate real democracy in action, they should never forget that there must be a balance of power. But so far, the Republican-controlled CNMI Legislature, also known as "Ben's Ten," have relinquished their power to Ben Fitial. Instead of obeying laws, they are obeying Ben, conveniently ignoring 16 serious impeachable offenses that were backed by facts, videotape, eyewitness accounts, and testimonials. The evidence was overwhelming, and the behavior by some law enforcement officials was insulting, not just to some of the "Noble Nine" members but to our entire community. Perhaps there would have been more evidence added, but conveniently, the logbook and the videotapes for the infamous prison breakout of a federal detainee for Ben's midnight massage was "lost."

I often wonder how fearful this poor prisoner must have been. She was awoken at 3am, handcuffed, and taken by armed officials to the governor's mansion. Surely she must have feared for her life. If a governor had the power to take a *federal prisoner* out of lock-up and have her summoned to his mansion at 3am, what else does he have the power to do? It is a very scary thought, and it is a travesty of justice that Guam U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco conveniently looked the other way when Fitial broke the law. It is times like this that makes us realize that we need our own U.S. Attorney to deal with the rampant corruption and flagrant violations of federal laws and basic human rights in the CNMI. Or perhaps Limtiaco just needs to wake up and realize that fruit bat poachers and bottom-of-the-barrel ice peddlers are not the greatest threat to the CNMI's safety, security, and well-being.

Yet with all of this calamity around us, I do find it humorous that the Republican-controlled CNMI Legislature was insulted by their governor, who called them a "do-nothing legislature," even though they all serve under Ben Fitial's political party. So he insults them and then they still rally behind him? If they are a "do-nothing legislature" as Ben Fitial claims them to be, then why is he supporting them? How can Ben Fitial ever deliver his promises of "Better Times" if we allow a Republican-dominated CNMI Legislature to continue to hold power? That is why I am appealing to everyone to listen to Ben's words of wisdom in this particular case and remove the "do-nothing" Republicans from the CNMI Legislature. Thank you Ben Fitial. For one time in history, I wholeheartedly agree with you. If we can bring back the "Noble Nine" and independent-minded legislators, I am confident you will finally have a CNMI Legislature compelled to action. Thank you Ben!

My friends, we have witnessed the chaos caused by an "Earthly Father" who was given two terms to fix our economy. He has failed. He has broken promises. He has broken local procurement laws repeatedly. He has enriched his closest supporters using government funds and ARRA contracts. He has committed at least 16 impeachable offenses. He has insulted our brothers and sisters on Tinian and Rota, calling them "stupid" and promised to "make them suffer." He has commanded some of the highest law enforcement officials to break the law and shield a former attorney general from receiving a penal summons. He has fired good employees because they did not obey him. He has hired new government employees in spite of the fact that the government needs downsizing, all in hopes of getting more political votes. He has publicly stated that he wanted to sell our pristine Northern Islands to the Chinese government. He has allowed our lone hospital to deteriorate to where it is on the verge of collapse, all so that he could "fast-track" a $2-million contract to a company that will temporarily manage CHC, when he should in fact *fire* CHC's CEO for his gross incompetence and mismanagement. He has gone on back-to-back government junkets with his press secretary Angel Demapan, staying at the finest hotel suites and dining on the largest lobsters and steaks anyone could ever dream of, and these trips were all financed by us CNMI taxpayers, even though there was no money for medical referrals or even money for the most basic hospital supplies. He continues to have his electricity and water for his mansion paid for by the CNMI taxpayers, even though we all pay for our own power and water.

And last but not least, Ben Fitial promised us a peanut butter factory, and instead we are now going to have peanut butter taxed! Talk about an emotional letdown! It is bad enough we have all fallen on hard times thanks to Ben's miserable leadership, but now we must say *adios* to peanut butter cookies and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Oh well. At least we still got our Spam. Wait, what? They want to raise taxes on our Spam too? Next you're going to tell us you want to raise taxes on lobsters! Oh wait, I forgot. That's a delicacy with certain leaders. I guess lobsters are safe! Woohoo!

How can anyone explain how all of what I have stated is not true or that these are "baseless allegations"? Please explain to me why we should continue to support this governor who pulls the strings of the CNMI Republican Party, the Office of the Attorney General, DPS, and just about every other agency other than PSS. Explain to me how you are able to turn the other way when you know in your heart that this governor has committed atrocities that has not only hurt our people, but will bankrupt our children for at least 25 years. Explain to us how our broke government will suddenly be able to shoulder a diesel power plant to the tune of $700,000 every single month for 25 years? The facts are indisputable with this and many other sole-source contracts. The diesel power plant is "one sided" and is not necessary and the company being hired has never built a single power plant. That is probably because the company that got the sole-source contract was only five days old when Ben Fitial and escaped fugitive/former AG Ed Buckingham signed the contract. So how can a company with zero experience that is only 5 days old get a lucrative, sole-sourced $190 million contract? Who in their right minds would sign such a reckless, shady, one-sided sole-source contract? Oh yes. I forget. Ben Fitial and Ed Buckingham would.

In this very important mid-term election, we can no longer afford to "Leave it alone." What is sad is that this election is about what it has always been about—**JOBS**. We have seen some of Ben's biggest critics and political opponents suddenly recant everything they said about him so that they could get good jobs. But my question is, what good is a job when members of your own family are put in harm's way? What good is a job when your child cannot get the most basic healthcare? What good is a job when doctors and nurses do not have the tools and the supplies to save your relatives' lives, or even *your own life*? What good is a job when businesses are closing and friends and family are all moving to the mainland? What good is a job when you have to trade your soul for a paycheck?

The bottom line is, this fight for a better future is very personal, because our children's future is on the line here. There is no compromising when it comes to corrupt contracts that will enrich a few people and devastate the rest of us. What will we leave our children? If Ben Fitial is given another two years, all that will be left for our children is massive debt and broken dreams.

I apologize to Fitial's Faithful Followers if my words offend them. But they should know that I too am offended. I am offended by the fact that some people think about only living for today without thinking of tomorrow. I am offended by people who put jobs and contracts over the general safety and welfare of the entire community. And I am deeply offended by a governor who has failed in every possible way. These are not just my opinions. These are indisputable *facts* that are backed by a ton of evidence. And if you do not agree, then you must be living in an entirely different universe.

On Nov. 6, the power is in your hands to tell Ben Fitial and his red faction that you are fed up with their *lies* and *excuses*. Ben fails. Angel makes up excuses. And in the end, they go on three-week junkets funded by taxpayers. It's time to practice real austerity measures. Let's start by firing Ben Fitial and his political mouthpiece.

Ed Propst
Dandan, Saipan

The Kilili trap

Does Kilili know what job he's running for? He says it's "Washington representative." But here's news for him: he's supposed to be our representative in Washington, not Washington's representative here. Kilili swoops down on a visit to the lowly (for him) CNMI and struts around like he owns the place. But he was never elected governor of these islands, and he won't even acknowledge the real governor. Why? Because Kilili acts like a colonial administrator from Washington, and refuses to acknowledge our self-government and local rule. Everything Kilili does is aimed at serving the mainland U.S., and protecting the interests of a small but vocal minority here in the CNMI.

How about protecting indigenous rights? Keeping our submerged lands? Securing Article 12? Getting compensation for U.S. military pollution and destruction of our islands? Addressing the takeover of our islands and our labor economy by foreigners? Kilili hasn't done anything on any of these issues. Is it because he forgot about these issues while living on the taxpayer dime in D.C.? I don't think so. I think it's because his interests are with them, not with us. How many bills has Kilili passed in Congress? None. What's he famous for? Eating more free food than any other congressman. Look it up. That is the only thing of note that Kilili has done. Thanks for making us a laughingstock, Kilili.

Most recently, Kilili started circulating a petition to bring more federal prosecutors to the CNMI. It's political grandstanding at its worst. It's not jobs, not Medicaid, not grants, not funding that Kilili wants to bring us but federal prosecutors. And if you vote for Kilili, that's about all you can expect. Not an improved economy, infrastructure grants, or addressing the injustices we islanders have suffered but some more federal prosecutors. Two years ago, Kilili promised to make our economy his first priority. Has he followed through on that promise? Are you doing better now than four years ago? Does the CNMI have more submerged lands under our control than we did four years ago? Do we have more local control of our economy and labor? You know the answer. Thanks, Kilili.

Sneaky Kilili knows he hasn't brought us anything good. His TV ads don't mention any specifics. If he did, he'd be fined for false advertising. Of course, Kilili loves to take credit for making the sun rise, for things that would have happened without him anyway. He even politicized the case of our little girl, trying to imply that he is responsible for her medical referral. Speaking of using our kids for his own political benefit: Kilili takes all the credit for our hardworking students who receive U.S. service academy nominations. Giving out service academy nominations is something that comes with the title of being our representative. It doesn't require any extra work on Kilili's part. But then, working hard for the people of the CNMI is not Kilili's strong suit. And taking credit for the hard work of the people of the CNMI is what Kilili has been doing all along.

Don't fall for the Kilili trap. Don't give him two more years to bring us more of the same, or worse. Let him know that we don't like him swooping down on us from afar, lecturing our leaders, and flying off back to Washington to plot against us. We want a representative who represents us in D.C., and not Kilili, who represents D.C.'s power here.

Want to improve the CNMI? Vote for a representative who will represent our interests in Washington.

Defeat Kilili. His supporters and controllers among the D.C. crowd won't be happy. But pleasing them is not what we're here for. It's about time Kilili realized that.

Carmen DLG Sablan
Dan Dan, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

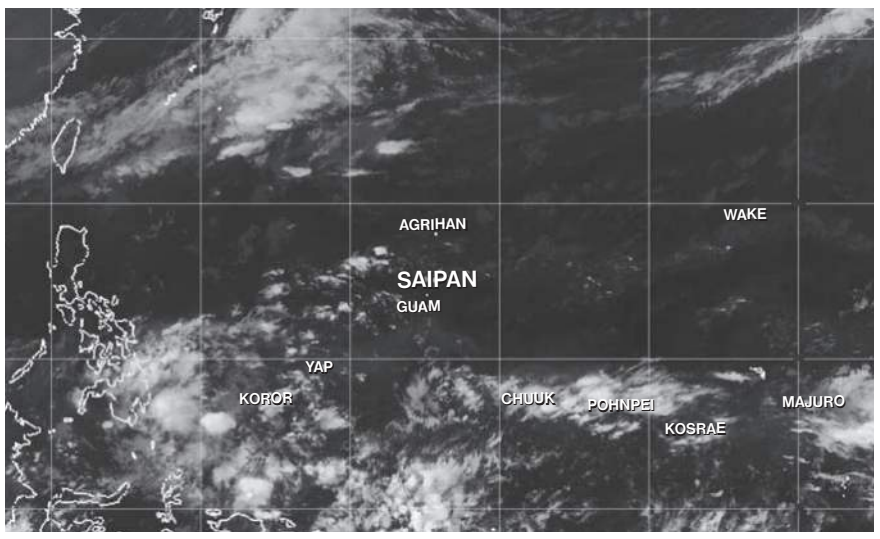
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼52
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲56	▼31
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼72
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲46	▼36
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲84	▼59
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼54
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼59
New York	Sunny	▲47	▼36
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼54
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲50	▼40
Pusan	Sunny	▲64	▼48
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼51
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲65	▼46
San Francisco	Sunny	▲78	▼57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼42
Tokyo	Sunny	▲65	▼50
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲48	▼40

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A frontal system southeast of Okinawa at 24N130E is generating cloudiness with rain and isolated thunderstorms north of a line from 22N130E to 22N140E. A surface trough runs northward from north of Koror at 10N135E to 19N135E. Isolated thunderstorms are seen near this system north of Yap within 65 miles of a line from 10N136E to 14N142E. A near-equatorial trough reaches east-southeastward from near Mindanao through 5N130E and a circulation centered south of Koror at 4N135E to end at EQ142E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring near these features over the Republic of Palau south of a line from 8N130E to 9N138E to 2N149E. An old shear line meanders westward from 18N180 to near Wake Island at 18N167E to end west of Anatahan at 16N140E. Patchy clouds and light showers are present along and up to 150 miles north of this boundary including Wake Island. Converging trade winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Micronesia in two areas. The first one is over Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae within 135 miles of a line from 8N144E to 7N165E. The second one is over Majuro, Butaritari and Tarawa atolls between the equator and 10N from 169E to 180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
1:37 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
7:39 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
11:43 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Wednesday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Thursday	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Friday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:49 PM	11:04 AM
Tuesday	11:40 PM	11:47 AM
Wednesday		12:29 PM
Thursday	12:31 AM	1:11 PM
Friday	2:17 AM	2:36 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCT. 27, 2012

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5	UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily	UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	Daily
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606	2:10am	6:00am	1	0Z603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
0Z604	3:30pm	7:10pm	Daily	0Z605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS)				**PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN (SPN)**			
UZ608	3:20am	6:35am	4, 7	0Z607	9:25pm	2:20am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)				**GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)				**VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN**			
VLK1734	2:00am	8:15am	5 every other week	VLK1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4 every other week
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1	0Z704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z702/605	12:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT	UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	0Z702/605	12:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
				PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN	UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	0Z750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	0Z724/605	1:50pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
				0Z724/605	1:50pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 5 via GUM				
0Z604/749	3:30pm	11:10pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5071	11:25pm	7:55am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bota Time 2012

Last Saturday marked a milestone in my life—I turned 30. Despite turning another *decade* older, it was a milestone I was glad to welcome. When I think about how life has been throughout my time on earth, I can honestly say it has been an interesting ride. And since my birthday always falls within the hustle and bustle of the campaign season, it started making me think of how things were here from my birth up to now.

When I was born, there was only one other governor that had served prior to the one who was in office then. The Commonwealth was only four years old; it was a young yet promising entity. After I was born, the CNMI went through a metamorphosis. It became a tourist destination that boasted beautiful views, attracting visitors from many parts of Asia and other parts of the world.

And one time the airport terminal was full of different carriers offering flights to and from many parts of the world. We had celebrities visiting us and different businesses opening up. It was good to be in the CNMI at the time. And then it started going bad.

One by one, businesses started going bad. And with businesses closing, money started becoming scarce. What was once a regional hub for airlines in the Western Pacific became just a stop on the trip. And with that decline came an exodus, as our friends and families started leaving the Commonwealth due to the uncertainty of things around us. Some of us thought that things would get better; however, as months turned to years and years turned to decades, the decline continued to the point where we are at now.

In the last 30 years, I saw a promising political and financial entity in the region plummet into depression, a depression we wonder if we'll ever get out of. And what got us in this mess? It was many, many bad decisions over the decades. In the past, many people came and tried to work with the CNMI's best interest at heart. Yet it always seems when that someone tries to find a solution to our problems, those in power either scoffed or ignored those ideas, preferring to stay with the status quo. This led to more problems.

And now, the problems are difficult to ignore. Uncertain financial futures for both who are still working and those who are retired, a healthcare system that will soon be getting a tag placed on it soon for easy identification at the morgue, and many rules and policies broken simply because certain "gachongs" think they are above the law and became selfish. In three decades, we've seen the CNMI shine and watched its shine dim because of things like these. In due time, something's got to give, and it seems that time has come.

This day, we will select from a multitude of candidates running to serve us here at home and in the halls of Congress, who will determine the course of our lives in the next two years. Many of them have different opinions on the issues we are facing, yet they all share one common goal: working for a better CNMI. Yet despite what they may share or disagree with, we the voters who hold their future all share the desire: We all want change.

It's this change that has raised ire with some of us. Some want a government free of corruption and full of change, while some prefer the status quo. I can tell you this right now: The status quo over these last three decades hasn't always been good for us. And it especially isn't benefitting us now, no matter who your allegiances are to. Yes, those of us who have gotten used to this might seem scared of things changing, but change, just like death and taxes, is a constant in life. We just got to accept it as it comes.

It's that spirit of change that has united a community, who, although they may not share the same skin tone, language, or custom, agree that times are not getting better, and they will not get better until we do something about it. That moment will be when we cast their votes today.

Some of us have already chosen who we want. I hope you did the right thing by voting with your head. I hope you voted for those who ran to serve you with a purpose, and not with an agenda. I hope you made decisions based on their merits and not by their associations. And I hope you made your decision with your children and your children's children in mind, for the choice you make will affect not just you but them as they get older.

We cannot ignore that which is too obvious to ignore, that we are hurting. And should you decide to vote for the right people, with the right mindset, you can breathe easily knowing you were a catalyst for change and moving forward.

Yes, I'm excited about what will come about in this third decade of my life. I know that some of us make wishes for that certain year we turn older, but when my birthday came about, I made a wish for the decade that I entered. I wished that in this new part of life, that I and many other people of my generation would see things turn around. I wished we would see prosperity again, see smiles on our faces and on our visitors' faces because of happiness of being in the CNMI. I wished to see things get better where those who left years ago will return once again to live their lives out in the place where the heart always lies: home. I wished for what all wish for, a new and better CNMI.

That dream, that wish, is attainable. We just got to make right decisions now that will not add to problems that will come around in the future. That first decision to make things right comes today at the polls.

It's BOTA Time CNMI! Go out, be heard, and don't be afraid. Like one citizen said, "The power is in your hands." So use that power. *Biba i gef på'gon sangkattan siha na islas Mariånas!*

Luis John Castro
Fina Sisu, Saipan

Crossing the line

This is in response to the article "Benavente: Smear campaign vs. Killili an act of desperation." (*Saipan Tribune,* Nov.5, 2012). First of all, we will like to clarify that we have neither political affiliation nor side with any political party. We are group of people who wants changes within our political system in the CNMI. We support candidates that will make a difference in our island chain and we cross party lines if we feel that such candidates will contribute for the betterment of our society.

Mr. Benavente stated that Sablan has never been arrested nor charged with illegal drugs. Mr. Sablan himself stated that he did do drugs in the past but he did not mention anything about the charges brought against him relating to his drug activities. His charges did not see the light of day and it was puzzling that such magnitude of violation of the law was swept under the rug.

Many CNMI residents witnessed Mr. Sablan's drug activities in the past and we as a society moved on with our lives. We had read in the letters to editor in the past—"Island of the thieves," "the do-nothing people of the CNMI," etc.—and we had enough of such rhetoric against us. Does Mr. Benavente and Mr. Sablan endorse for our people to be label as corrupted and incompetent?

We have been a strong supporter of Mr. Killili for years, but his few elitist individuals—who call us uneducated, our way of thinking is wrong, they want us to turn in our blue passports for speaking for our individual rights—are way out of line. What we don't understand is the good vs. evil. Mr. Sablan is good and the administration is evil. Mr. Sablan was a Cabinet member in the past. Full Time Employees (FTEs) were given to supporters, contracts were given to close relatives and Mr. Sablan did not raise the issue of public corruption at that point in time. Did Mr. Benavente as an elected official in the CNMI request for an investigation due to Mr. Sablan not fulfilling his contract with the CNMI government after quitting his post as a Cabinet member in the past? Maybe, months ago the leadership from Mr. Killili Sablan's camp met and planned to win the election by bringing up corruption charges against the present administration to win the CNMI political games this mid-term election. There goes the Noble Nine or better yet the Nothing Nine.

Mr. Killili Sablan crossed the line when he initiated the petition for the U.S Department of Justice to investigate our sitting governor for public corruption. To use his name and being a public official is unethical, any which way you want to slice it. The argument of having the evidence and facts for him to initiate an investigation is irrelevant. We the voters of the CNMI will not tolerate such actions today or in the future.

Cameron Taitano
Odessa, TX

FDR was a pretty smart guy

As we go into this election, it is absolutely necessary that we stop and consider a few things. Are all the political wrangling, underhandedness, and backbiting just par for the course? Should we just vote along party lines because that is what we have always done? Should I vote for my relative just because he's my relative, even though I think he or she may not be the best person for the job? Or should we take the time to consider what is best for the future of the CNMI and its people?

Look at the situation the CNMI is in. The economy is shriveling up, government spending is more than twice its income, Medicaid is in the toilet along with the hospital, retirement is in freefall to worthlessness, we have more people on food stamps and government aid than ever, the governor makes backdoor deals worth hundreds of millions of dollars in total disregard for established spending protocols, the list goes on and on. So then, who do we vote for?

Before you answer that please consider what Franklin Delano Roosevelt once said: "In politics, nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way." That being the case, we can assume that the current situation we are in is the byproduct of the schemes of men whose own personal agendas don't have the best interest of people in mind. Primarily they are concerned about themselves and their families and beyond that the rest of us can just let it be. If we believe that the retirement failing just happened, or that Medicaid failing just happened, or that the hospital falling apart just happened, then we are fools indeed and we deserve to be treated as such. But if we have any God-given common sense we must assume that all that ails the CNMI is the result of greed, thievery, mismanagement, or general buffoonery. If the above is true, then we have to ask ourselves if we want this to continue. If not, we really need to prayerfully consider who we cast our votes for.

I think that the CNMI should cast a vote of no confidence in our current leadership by voting for those who are not stuck in the good ol' boys way of thinking and vote for people who actually want to bring change to this community. We should vote for those who will bring real transparency to the government (not the "I said it so it must be true" baloney), and who really care about what the people want (not voting along party lines in disregard of the expressed will of the people).

Remember the previous quote about stuff doesn't just happen but is planned? Consider this quote, also attributed to FDR: "True individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made." Then remember some of the fanatical comments made during the impeachment hearings. People (not of NMI descent) would get up to speak their position and got shouted down by bigoted racists telling them to go back where they came from. Picture that, an American citizen being told by another American citizen to go back to where they came from in a chamber where the American flag is displayed. Evidently the persons who make these types of comments think it's OK to take money from the USA but not its ideals. To that, all I have to say is that is exactly what a democracy is all about—people of differing opinions coming together for the good of the people, speaking their opinions without fear of repercussions. As stated by the CNMI and the U.S. constitutions: "No law shall be made respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." Yet some would have it not so.

As I stated earlier, we must prayerfully consider whom we shall vote for. Do we want more of the same or do we want people in office who will take a stand against corruption, government waste, abuse of power, nepotism, ineptitude, and the like? Please consider this last quote from FDR: "Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a president and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country." Every time the voting polls are open we have opportunity to decide the course our government takes and the direction our community continues in. Let's take a stand and do what's right for the people, not select families or individuals. This is an election, not a popularity contest. Please CNMI, get out there and vote. If none of the names on the ballot are satisfactory write in a name that is more satisfactory to you. This is perfectly acceptable and legal in all 50 states and is a protected right of every citizen. Where would our country be if the following never happened: In 1928, Herbert Hoover won the Republican Massachusetts presidential primary on write-ins, polling 100,279. In 1940, Franklin D. Roosevelt won the Democratic New Jersey presidential primary with 34,278 write-ins. In 1952, Dwight Eisenhower won the Republican Massachusetts presidential primary with 254,898 write-ins. In 1960, John F. Kennedy won the Democratic Pennsylvania presidential primary with 183,073 write-ins, and he won the Democratic Massachusetts presidential primary with 91,607 write-ins. All of these men went on to be presidents of the U.S. because people were not satisfied with the names that were on the ballot and people let their voices be heard anyway. Don't let anyone fool you. You can vote for anyone you want. Even if their name isn't on the ballot or is otherwise struck out. I am planning on writing in a lot of names of people who I think will help the CNMI. You can too. Let the voice of the people be heard!

Daniel Basaldua
Kagman, Saipan

START SMART YIELDS POSITIVE RESULTS IN 4 YEARS

For every 2 HS graduates, one enrolls at NMC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Since the launch of the federally funded Start Smart Seminar four years ago, more and more students have been motivated to continue with their studies at the Northern Marianas College, according to NMC dean of Student Services Leo Pangilinan.

On average, "across all [Public School System] high schools, one in every two graduates end up attending NMC within one year of graduating from high school," he said.

This means, he explained, that approximately half of seniors in public schools enroll at NMC every year to start their college journey—thanks in large part to the Start Smart program.

This year's Smart Start drew nearly 500 seniors from public high schools on Saipan. It was highlighted by presentations of guests who actually earned college degrees and who serve as inspirational and motivational speakers.

Seniors on Tinian and Rota are scheduled to participate in the same event in coming days.

Start Smart Seminar is a program that brings all graduating public high school students together to receive information about what college education is all about, its importance to everyone's life and the expectations that the students may have in the next chapter of their educational journey, among other things.

According to Pangelinan, since Start Smart began in 2009, the number of students enrolling at NMC has been going up.

In school year 2010-2011, NMC registered 268 students—out of a total of 618 seniors then—who enrolled at the institution after their graduation. This is significantly higher than the 209 recorded in school year 2009-2010.

Pangelinan said that NMC posted one of its lowest enrollment figures from PSS in 2008 with only 92 students—the time when the college was dealing with a severe show-cause status with its accreditation. At the time, Start Smart has yet to be born.

College records also indicated that in school year 2006, NMC enrollment from PSS high schools totaled 120. It slightly increased to 181 the following school year.

Seeing the attendance of about 250 seniors from Marianas High School and about 225 students from Kagman High and Saipan Southern High School at last week's Start Smart seminar, Pangelinan is confident that enrollment numbers for NMC will remain high.

In his presentation to participants, Frankie Elliptico, Office of Institutional Effectiveness director, highlighted the many reasons why it is smart for every senior student to start their college journey at NMC.

Among the reasons cited are the high quality education provided at NMC, highly trained faculty, NMC's continued accreditation, the small class sizes that create a better learning environment, and credits that can be transferred to other universities, among others.

Pangelinan cited three main objectives of the seminar: prepare high school students for college; provide them a better understanding and appreciation of the benefits of college; and increase their awareness of available financial aid.

To better give participants an overview of what college is all about, motivational speakers were given five minutes per table to share with seniors their life and college experiences, the demands and challenges they face, and the satisfaction and fulfillment they got when they earned their degrees.

Stephanie Calub, 17, a senior from Kagman High School described the seminar as an important guiding factor. Calub wants to become a nurse and plans to pursue it either at the University of Hawaii or University of San Francisco.

After last week's session, 17-year-old P.M. Mailo from SSHS shared his plan to enroll at NMC after high school. He said the seminar gave him a lot of information about available financial assistance that he can take advantage of. Mailo plans to pursue a criminal justice course at the University of Hawaii after two years.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Ed Propst, center, motivates senior students yesterday to pursue their college dreams during the second day of this year's Start Smart Seminar organized by the Northern Marianas College at Saipan World Resort.

Nurses, hairdressers join hands for Sta. Remedios Parish mission

Over a 100 parishioners at Santa Remedios Parish recently received free services from volunteer nurses from the Commonwealth Health Center and Northern Marianas College and from the island's popular hairdressers as they joined hands in giving the village people services free of charge.

The nurses who provided the parishioners free health screening last week included Hervin Jacinto, Vivian Concepcion, Ray Alous Alejandre, Cherry Cope, Yixin Zhang, Mary Bernadette Cabalza, Yunjiao Bai, and Ernie Molina.

Similarly, 10 of the best hairdressers on island—Eydie Uy, Joey Dela Cerna, Edwin Pagasian, Alex Raig, Rhoda Lintag, Flor Salazar, Jay Calma, Delia Ortiz, and Remy Roman—gave free haircut services to people.

The community mission, dubbed "Hospitality & Missionary Sunday Event," was held Oct. 28, 2012, at Sta. Remedios Parish. The mission was coordinated by Julie Cunanan, Ernie Molina, and Joel Vallega in celebrating the birthday of Fr. Nonoy Recaido Jr.

Recipients were also provided free delicious meals and drinks courtesy of sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ada, Mr. and Mrs. Rick Kautz, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lifoifoi, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Buniag, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cabrera, Mr. and Mrs. Luis Kapileo, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Orpiano, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Ham, Ms. Juliet Panaligan, Ms. Nette Romero, and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Cunanan.

The Legion of Mary officers and members also gave free rosaries, scapulars, and other religious items during the mission. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteer nurses from the Commonwealth Health Center and Northern Marianas College provide free health screenings during the community mission, dubbed "Hospitality & Missionary Sunday Event," on Oct. 28, 2012, at Sta. Remedios Parish.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hairdressers give free haircuts to people during the community mission, dubbed "Hospitality & Missionary Sunday Event," on Oct. 28, 2012, at Sta. Remedios Parish.

Church thanks supporters of bazaar fundraiser

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Empty Vessel Ministry hosts a bazaar/flea market fundraiser every Saturday at the ABA building in Gualo Rai.

Empty Vessel Ministry wishes to thank supporters, volunteers, and vendors for their continued support for its bazaar/flea market fundraiser every Saturday at the ABA building in Gualo Rai. Proceeds from the fundraiser activity help fund the church's local and international programs.

The church gives a special thank you to Aaron Choi, president of AA Enterprise, for allowing it to use the building without a fee for the fundraising activity. The ABA building is available for affordable rental and can be reached at 322-4447.

"If you have clothes, shoes, or household items you are donating or don't know where to take them, we are happy to receive them and make use of them. Your throwaways may be someone's blessing," the church said in a statement.

Vendors interested to join the bazaar/flea market can reach the Empty Vessel Ministry at 483-0162 or 235-2340. Visit our website at www.emptyvesselministry.org or facebook at Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation. ***(PR)***

Island Snapshots

NEW STUDENT OFFICERS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Newly elected Associated Students of NMC president Alex Shen, fourth from left, poses with other organization officers and friends during the recent investiture ceremony held on campus. Also in photo is NMC dean of Student Services Leo Pangelinan, left.

TRICK OR TREAT! CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas College staff and students get into the Halloween spirit by wearing different costumes.

FAM TOUR MVA

Participants in the Olympus blog familiarization tour to Saipan on Oct. 24-28, 2012, pose at the Saipan International Airport.

TRAVEL FAIR CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Visitors Authority manager director Perry Tenorio, right, and general manager of Aviareps Marketing Garden-Taiwan Jemy See man the promotional booth for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota on opening day of the Taipei International Travel Fair on Oct. 26, 2012, at the Taipei World Trade Center. Taiwan's biggest travel show, the annual Taipei ITF featured more than 1,000 booths representing 850 travel-related units from 60 countries.

PRODUCT OF EARMARKS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), Board of Education members, Public School System administrators, and students are all smiles looking over books, flip charts, and other instructions materials that have been translated in Refaluwasch and Chamorro and published for use in 16 public schools. The work was paid for with a $250,000 earmark that Sablan had included in the 2010 congressional appropriation for education. The money also paid for training staff in the use of materials. The project was carried out by the Chamorro and Carolinian Language Heritage Studies program at PSS.

INFORMATION CAMPAIGN NMC

Northern Marianas College students, staff, and community members volunteer to help promote public awareness about Initiative 17-12 at the Sabalu Market this past Saturday. For more information about the initiative, visit www.nmcnet.edu.

HOMEFRONT SUPPORT CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Nola Hix of Xerox Corp., right, and John Hirsh from the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, left, have their picture taken with Jack Hardy of Images Saipan after receiving local postcards that Hardy donated for inclusion in the care packages for local troops this year. The 5th Annual Operation Homefront Support will prepare the care packages the day before Thanksgiving on Nov. 26 at the Jose P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Manta Ray Battalion helps out in this year's Trunk or Treat with traffic, parking and pedestrian detail. The cadets did traffic control duties from 3:30pm to 8pm, making sure pedestrians were safe and cars were parked in an orderly fashion. The 14 cadets were divided into four groups. Each group had a responsibility. Group 1 and group 3 were responsible for pedestrian detail. Group 2 was parking detail, and group 4 was in charge of giving out candy and entertaining American Memorial Park Museum visitors.

Business

Post-storm construction hiring may aid US economy

By ALEX VEIGA and MATTHEW PERRONE
AP BUSINESS WRITERS

Hiring in the long-depressed U.S. construction industry will get a boost from the rebuilding that will follow Superstorm Sandy. Those jobs, in turn, could raise economic growth, analysts say.

The modest lift to the economy is expected to come in the first months of 2013. Construction firms, contractors and local governments will hire to rebuild or renovate homes, buildings, roads and bridges that were damaged or destroyed.

"This is going to be a net positive, particularly in the mid-Atlantic," said Sophia Koropeckyj, managing director Moody's Economy.com.

Sandy inflicted up to $50 billion in estimated losses from property damage, lost business and additional living costs. The damage was concentrated near the coastlines of New Jersey and New York City.

Construction jobs are especially vital to the economy. Pay is higher than average: At $25.86, average hourly pay tops the average of $23.58 for all U.S. private-sector jobs—and is far above the averages for areas like retail ($16.43) and leisure and hospitality, which includes restaurants and hotel jobs ($13.35).

In addition, job growth in construction typically spurs hiring for other jobs, like architects, real estate agents and sellers of appliances, building materials and office equipment. The stocks of home-improvement retailers like Home Depot (up more than 3 percent) and Lowe's (up nearly 6 percent) surged last week even as overall stock prices were flat.

Boats and cars destroyed by Sandy will have to be replaced, too, likely leading to some increased manufacturing.

Economists caution that the construction hiring may be only modest and will likely boost the economy only slightly. And the storm damage could slow growth a bit in the current October-December quarter. Factories, oil refineries, restaurants and stores that were closed or disrupted will cut hours or jobs. Some consumers will earn and spend less as a result. And some construction projects that had been set to start will have to be canceled or put off.

In the current quarter, the storm will slow the economy's annual growth rate by a slight two-tenths of 1 percentage point, predicts Mark Vitner, senior economist at Wells Fargo. But Vitner thinks reconstruction will speed the economy by the same amount in both the first and second quarters of 2013. Last quarter, the economy grew at an estimated 2 percent annual rate.

Any help for construction could help invigorate the economy. Since the Great Recession ended nearly 3 1/2 years ago, economic growth has been slowed by lost construction jobs and diminished residential and commercial building.

Most of the rebuilding won't start right away, analysts noted. Insurance claims must first be settled. Government money will need to be allocated in some areas. And if the Northeast winter is severe, much work will have to be put off until spring.

Once construction firms step up hiring in the first few months of next year, Koropeckyj foresees a beneficial ripple effect.

"Not only will it help construction directly, but also the building supply stores, wholesale trade," she said. "It's going to be helping the automotive industry by boosting demand for utility trucks and pickup trucks."

The need for rebuilding is widespread in the areas hit by the storm. Along New Jersey's 127-mile coastline, for example, Sandy wrecked thousands of homes, from multimillion-dollar houses to modest bungalows, along with boardwalks, roads and bridges.

G-20 officials meet to discuss debt in Europe, US

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Finance ministers and central bank governors from the world's leading economies met in Mexico on Sunday amid growing fears over the global impact of Europe's debt crisis and the stalemate over a fiscal plan in the United States. The two-day meeting of G-20 financial officials in Mexico City, coming just ahead of U.S. elections and shortly after the annual IMF and World Bank meeting in Tokyo, lacked key players such as U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Brazilian finance chief Guido Mantega.

Although recent financial talks have focused on the debt crisis in Europe, especially in Greece and Spain, some delegates in Mexico expressed concern over the fiscal situation in Washington.

Mexican finance minister Jose Antonio Meade said that among the issues dealt with at this meeting will be "the fiscal cliff" in the United States, where a package of spending cuts and tax increases are set to take effect unless Congress acts by Jan. 1.

"In recent meetings, the United States has expressed confidence that it will be able to build the political consensuses needed to make adjustments that will send clear signals that a fiscal consolidation is coming," said Meade.

The closed-door meeting will be the last organized by Mexico in its role as president of the G-20 in 2012.

In a working meeting with delegates late Sunday, Spanish Economy Minister Luis de Guindos was expected to explain his government's labor and banking reforms designed to deal with a crisis that has seen the country's unemployment rate rise to 25 percent.

An official with the Spanish delegation, who declined to be named in line official policy, said De Guindos was not expected to announce any changes in Spain's position on international financial aid.

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said last week that he saw no immediate need to ask for help but did not rule it out in the future.

The G-20 brings together the world's principal economies and important emerging ones, including the United States, the European Union, China and Brazil.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Banks extend fee waivers for storm-hit customers

Some of the nation's biggest banks have extended temporary waivers on a variety of fees and late charges for residents of states hit hard by Superstorm Sandy. It's an effort to ease pressure on customers to make bill payments when nearly 1.8 million homes and businesses remain without power across a swath of states. The banks themselves still face power outages, forcing the shutdown of dozens of branches and ATMs. JPMorgan Chase Inc. said automatic refunds of certain fees for those living in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia and the District of Columbia were extended until the end of business Nov. 7.

Apple paid only 1.9 pct tax on earnings outside US

Apple Inc. paid an income tax rate of only 1.9 percent on its earnings outside the U.S. in its latest fiscal year, a regulatory filing by the company shows. The world's most valuable company paid $713 million in tax on foreign earnings of $36.8 billion in the fiscal year ended Sept. 29, according to the financial statement filed on Oct. 31. The foreign earnings were up 53 percent from fiscal 2011, when Apple earned $24 billion outside the U.S. and paid income tax of 2.5 percent on it. The tech giant's foreign tax rate compares with the general U.S. corporate tax rate of 35 percent.

Nation

Electoral tally scenarios

ELECTION 2012

In the race for the White House, a candidate needs 270 out of the total 538 electoral votes in the Electoral College. Considering three scenarios for what could happen on Election Night:

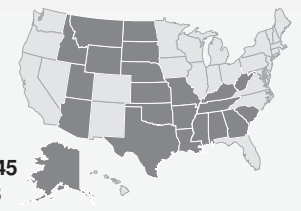
1. A clear popular and electoral college vote winner

• Either President Barack Obama or Republican Mitt Romney wins both the popular vote and the electoral vote

• In 2008, Obama won 365 electoral votes to Republican John McCain's 173

2008 electoral results ►
Obama 365
McCain 173

Popular vote
In millions
Obama 69.45
McCain 59.93



NOTE: Of Nebraska's 5 votes. McCain won 4, Obama won 1; Nebraska and Maine are not winner-take-all states

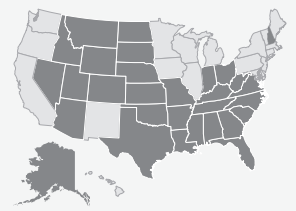
2. The electoral vote winner loses the popular vote

• If someone has 270 electoral votes, that person is president

• In 2000, Democrat Al Gore won 48.38 percent of the popular vote to Republican George W. Bush's 47.87 percent, but Bush won the electoral vote

2000 electoral results ►
Bush 271
Gore 266

Popular vote
In millions
Bush 50.45
Gore 50.99



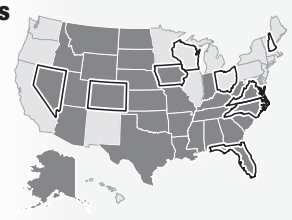
NOTE: U.S. Supreme Court overruled Florida court order for a state recount

3. Candidates tie at 269 electoral votes

• This would throw the election to Congress, where scenarios abound

• The new House of Representatives would elect the president, with each state getting one vote

• The Senate would elect the vice president, with each senator getting a vote



◄ A possible tie scenario
Obama 269
Romney 269

Of the so-called tossup states, **Obama** takes New Hampshire, Ohio, Wisconsin; **Romney** takes Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Nevada,

Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau, "Presidential Elections 1789-2008" Graphic: Robert Dorrell © 2012 MCT

Obama leads but Romney with shot in electoral race

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—President Barack Obama enters the final hours of the 2012 campaign with an edge in the hunt for the 270 electoral votes needed to win and more ways to reach that magic number. Yet the race is remarkably close in at least six states that could go either way, giving Republican Mitt Romney hope that he can pull off a come-from-behind victory.

If the election were held now, an Associated Press analysis found that Obama would be all but assured of 249 votes, by carrying 20 states that are solidly Democratic or leaning his way—Iowa, Nevada and Pennsylvania among them—and the District of Columbia. Romney would lay claim to 206, from probable victories in 24 states that are strong Republican turf or tilt toward the GOP, including North Carolina.

Up for grabs are 83 electoral votes spread across Colorado, Florida, Ohio, New Hampshire, Virginia and Wisconsin. Of those, Republicans and Democrats alike say Obama seems in a bit better shape than Romney in Ohio and Wisconsin, while Romney appears to be performing slightly better than Obama or has pulled even in Florida and Virginia.

The AP's analysis is not meant to be predictive, but instead to provide a snapshot of a race that has been extraordinarily close from the outset. The analysis is based on interviews with more than a dozen Republican and Democratic strategists in Washington and in the most contested states; public polls; internal campaign surveys; early vote figures; spending on television advertising; candidate travel; and get-out-the-vote organizations.

Both Republicans and Democrats say Tuesday's election has tightened across the board the homestretch. Many factors are adding to the uncertainty, including early vote tallies, Election Day turnout and the impact of Superstorm Sandy in the East. There's no telling the impact of Libertarian Party candidate Gary Johnson, who's on the ballot in 48 states, including all the battlegrounds, or Virgil Goode, an ex-congressman from Virginia who's running on the Constitution Party ticket. But here's perhaps the biggest issue complicating efforts to get a handle on where the race really stands: different assumptions that each party's pollsters are making about the demographic makeup of the electorate. Republicans are anticipating that the body of voters who end up casting ballots will be more like the 2004 electorate, heavily white and male. Democrats argue that 2012 voters as a whole will look more like the electorate of four years ago when record numbers of minorities and young people turned out.

The difference has meant wildly disparate polling coming from Republicans and Democrats, with each side claiming that it's measuring voter attitudes more precisely than the opposition.

Said Republican strategist Phil Musser: "The conviction with which both sides say they are on a trajectory to victory is unique."

Tuesday will determine which side is correct. For now, the gulf between the two sides' polling has made it difficult to judge which candidate is faring better in the six up-for-grabs states.

In the final hours of the campaign, national polls show a neck-and-neck race for the popular vote.

But it's the Electoral College vote that elects the president. In that state-by-state race, Obama long has had the advantage because he's started with more states—and votes—in his column, giving him more ways to cobble together the victories he needs to reach 270. Romney has had fewer states and votes, and, thus few paths—though victory remained within his reach.

Said Mo Elleithee, a Democratic strategist who specializes in Virginia: "A 1 percent shift in any demographic group in Virginia is the difference between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney being president. That's how close this election is."

Asia

China's Communists endorse Bo Xilai's expulsion

BEIJING (AP)—China's ruling Communist elite have endorsed the expulsion of former high-flying politician Bo Xilai and approved final preparations for the party's upcoming congress.

The closed-door meeting of the Central Committee that ended Sunday was the last before Communist Party leader Hu Jintao and other government officials begin to cede power to Vice President Xi Jinping and others at the congress, which opens Thursday.

The Central Committee said in a statement carried by the official Xinhua News Agency that it endorsed decisions to expel Bo and former Railways Minister Liu Zhijun from the Communist Party. Bo is accused of a range of misdeeds including covering up his wife's murder of a British businessman. Liu faces corruption charges.

Xinhua said Hu presided over the meeting and delivered a work report. It said Xi introduced a report of the current five-year session and an amendment to the party charter, both of which will be discussed at the congress. It gave no details.

The leadership transition takes place as slowing economic growth in China is exacerbating public ill feelings over corruption, social injustice and policies that favor state-run companies and the elite over private enterprise and ordinary citizens. Abroad, China's attempts to build good relations with neighbors have been set back by territorial spats with Japan, the Philippines and Vietnam, and Beijing feels hemmed in by a U.S. push to divert more military resources to Asia.

The Central Committee applauded its performance over the past five years. "Faced with a complicated international environment and an arduous task of stable reform and development, the entire party under General Secretary Hu Jintao ... withstood the test of all types of difficulties and risks."

It said the economy had grown stably and rapidly, there had been major progress on reform and opening-up, and people's living conditions had improved remarkably.

The central committee did not signal any shifts in economic policies but said it would continue to shift the growth model to one more driven by domestic demand.

The policy-setting committee also promoted two generals to the party commission that oversees the military: air force Gen. Xu Qiliang and Gen. Fan Changlong, a career soldier who runs the Jinan Military Area Command and took part in relief efforts after the Sichuan earthquake in 2008.

The Central Committee is comprised of about 370 people from the upper ranks of the party, government and military.

Bo's ouster earlier this year widened rifts within a leadership that likes to project an image of unity. It also complicated the bargaining over the roster of new leaders.

India's Congress party holds massive rally

NEW DELHI (AP)—The leaders of India's ruling Congress party addressed a rare gathering of hundreds of thousands of supporters on Sunday, attempting to reclaim lost political ground after being battered by a series of corruption scandals.

The rally comes as a two key Indian states head to the polls and as the party begins preparations for national elections to be held in 2014.

Sonia Gandhi, the Italian-born leader of the Congress party, defended a series of politically unpopular economic reform measures launched by the government over the last few months. These include opening India's retail sector to foreign investment and cutting fuel subsidies.

In her fiery speech, Gandhi also addressed the corruption allegations her party and its allies have faced over the last two years.

"I admit, corruption is a cancer, it is a disease," she said. "We will continue to fight this disease."

Several government ministers are facing corruption charges stemming from scandals over the hosting of the 2010 Commonwealth Games, the sale of cellphone spectrum and allocation of coal fields that auditors said lost the country of billions of dollars.

More recently, anti-corruption crusader Arvind Kejriwal has alleged that Gandhi's businessman son-in-law Robert Vadra made millions of rupees off of shady real estate deals and a senior minister embezzled millions of rupees meant for a charity that helps the disabled. None of Kejriwal's allegations have led to charges or been independently verified, but they have added to the government's graft woes.

The opposition Bharatiya Janata Party has used the corruption scandals to score political points but on Sunday Gandhi hit back.

ASIA BRIEFS

Reports: Tibetan artist burns himself in protest

BEIJING (AP)—A Tibetan artist has died after setting himself on fire in the latest self-immolation protesting Chinese rule, and residents are afraid to leave their homes because large numbers of security forces are in the area, the Tibetan government-in-exile and an activist group said Sunday. The man set fire to himself Sunday morning in Tongren, a monastery town in western China's Qinghai province, said the exile government based in Dharamsala, India, and London-based Free Tibet. A photo on the exile government's website showed a burned body wrapped in traditional orange scarves and surrounded by monks.

Communist rebels kill 4 soldiers in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Suspected communist guerrillas have killed four unarmed, off-duty soldiers in the southern Philippines in the latest flare-up of the 43-year insurgency, military officials said Monday. At least 10 suspected New People's Army guerrillas opened fire with M16 rifles on the soldiers in the rural outskirts of Davao city late Sunday afternoon, initially killing three soldiers, regional military spokeswoman Maj. Rosa Maria Cristina Manuel said. The rebels dragged another soldier to a rice field and fatally shot him. Troops found his body on Monday, she said.

Protests in Tokyo against US Osprey aircraft

TOKYO (AP)—Thousands of people have rallied against American deployment of Osprey military aircraft on a southern Japanese island amid escalating anti-U.S. military sentiment following recent crimes. Protesters gathered Sunday at a Tokyo park demanding removal of 12 MV-22 Osprey hybrid aircraft from Okinawa. Ospreys were deployed in October despite local opposition over safety concerns following two crashes elsewhere. They chanted, "Ospreys out! Marine Corps out!" Anger is running high days after a U.S. airman allegedly assaulted a teenage boy on Okinawa, just two weeks after a curfew was imposed on all 52,000 U.S. troops in Japan after the arrest of two Navy sailors in the alleged rape of a local woman.

World

In this Saturday, Nov. 03, 2012 photo, a rebel fighter watches windows in an overlooking building as he awaits for loyalists to President Bashar Assad to appear during heavy fighting in the Jedida district of Aleppo, Syria.

AP

Syrian rebels capture oilfield near Iraqi border

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian rebels firing mortars and rocket-propelled grenades captured an oilfield in the country's east on Sunday after three days of fierce fighting with government troops protecting the facility, activists said.

The head of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, Rami Abdul-Rahman, said rebels overran the Al-Ward oilfield in the province of Deir el-Zour near the border with Iraq early Sunday. About 40 soldiers were guarding the facility that the rebels had been pounding for the past three days, he said, adding that opposition fighters also captured several regime troops.

Oil was a major source of revenue for the cash-strapped regime of President Bashar Assad before the European Union and the United States imposed an embargo on Syria's crude exports last year to punish the government for its brutal crackdown on protesters early on in the uprising.

"This field used to supply the regime with fuel for its tanks and our aim was to stop these supplies," Omar Abu Leila, an activist in Deir el-Zour, told The Associated Press by telephone. He said there was heavy fighting recently near the oil facility that is located just east of the city of Mayadin.

Both activists said the rebels shot down a fighter jet near the oil field Sunday. It was not clear if the warplane was taking part in fighting in the area.

Abu Leila said that the oilfield had been functioning up until shortly before the rebels seized it. It was not clear whether the facility was damaged in the fighting or sabotaged by regime forces.

Analysts say the rebels would not benefit economically from capturing the oil filed, although the opposition's latest conquest could reduce crude supplies available to the government.

"It's another blow to Assad in terms of ... the oil available to him," said Robin Mills, head of consulting at Manaar Energy Consulting & Project Management in Dubai. The capturing of Al Ward is largely symbolic, Mills added. The rebels face serious challenges getting much—if any—of the captured oil to the market since the main export pipeline along the Mediterranean coast remains under government control.

Egypt's Copts choose new pope for uncertain times

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's ancient Coptic Christian Church named a new pope on Sunday to spiritually guide the community through a time when many fear for their future with the rise of Islamists to power and deteriorating security after last year's uprising.

The death earlier this year of Pope Shenouda III, a familiar figure who led the church for 40 years, heightened the sense of insecurity felt by many Egyptian Christians. They will now look to Bishop Tawadros, who will be ordained Nov. 18 as Pope Tawadros II, to fill the void in leadership.

Tawadros, 60, was chosen in an elaborate Mass where a blindfolded boy drew the name of the next patriarch from a crystal chalice.

"The situation for us in Egypt is not stable," said 27 year-old Peter Nasser, a volunteer at the Mass. "We hope the incoming pope will make our problems known to the outside world," he added, voicing hopes that Tawadros will also raise the profile of Christians in this country.

Nasser accused the current government, led by President Mohammed Morsi of the Islamic fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood, of discriminating against minorities. He claimed the new leadership does not work in the interest of all Egyptians.

But even under authoritarian leader Hosni Mubarak, who ran Egypt for nearly three decades until he was ousted in February 2011, rights groups say police were lax in pursuing and punishing those who attacked Christians and few Copts were named to genuinely powerful posts in government.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russian nationalists protest Putin, eye mainstream

MOSCOW (AP)—Thousands of nationalists marched through Moscow on Sunday chanting slogans such as "Russia for the Russians" to protest President Vladimir Putin's government, which they accuse of lavishing privileges on migrants and minorities while ignoring ethnic Russians. The anti-Kremlin tone of the nationalists, who once backed Putin, comes as the movement's leaders try to broaden their base in the wake of last winter's historic opposition protests against the Russian leader. Some nationalists are even denouncing violence and racism, moves many mainstream opposition activists view with suspicion. Sunday's march took place on Unity Day, a national holiday established in 2005 to replace commemorations of the Bolshevik Revolution.

Obama's Kenyan half-brother predicts election win

KOGELO, Kenya (AP)—United States President Barack Obama's Kenyan half-brother says the leader's African family is optimistic that he will win Tuesday's election. Malik Obama told The Associated Press Sunday that the family sees no reason why Obama shouldn't be elected for a second term. He was speaking during a sports tournament that he organizes every year in honor of their late father, Barack Obama, Sr. Villagers at Obama's father's home town of Kogelo have high expectations that Obama will win. At the St. Richard catholic church, Okech Ogombe, 53, a church elder, said he prayed for Obama's reelection. Most Kenyans consider Obama, the son of a white mother from Kansas and a black father from Kenya, as one of their own. Barack Obama has five Kenyan half-brothers and a half-sister.

Overdrive

Turbo adds spice to Hyundai Sonata's suburban circuit

By TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Midsize sedans usually arrive in refrigerator white, ready to transport little Collin and Misty to cello lessons or out for iPhone 5s.

These stolid, solid road citizens also tote groceries—organic eggplant and range-fed chicken and fresh flowers from the Food Inc. Neighborhood Megaplex.

But here's the deal, Mom and Dad: Midsize sedans rarely just haul, if you know what I mean. Most of these reliable midsize door-slammers, in fact, offer more devices for backing up safely than going forward rapidly.

HYUNDAI/MCT

The 2012 Hyundai Sonata 2.0T has a tubocharged engine that carries the midsize sedan from 0 to 60 in about six seconds.

Which is what makes the 2012 Hyundai Sonata SE 2.0T such a sweet sleeper. I kind of doubt, by the way, that the saucy Sonata got a Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval.

But with a tidal wave of new midsize sedans headed our way—the Ford Fusion, Honda Accord, Mazda6, Nissan Altima and a new model of the Chevy Malibu—the Sonata 2.0T still stands as the overall midsize to beat, I think.

That's pretty significant considering that it hit the market more than a year ago. But the critical part is that "2.0T."

It gets you a Sonata sedan with Hyundai's impressive turbocharged two-liter four, a Mighty Mouse of a motor that cranks out 274 horsepower.

As you know, that is more horsepower per cubic inch—or per liter, if you drink wine and read the New Yorker—than some highly respectable sports cars.

What more can you ask of Citizen Sonata?

The 2012 silver-blue Sonata SE I had recently looked virtually identical to more mainstream versions, which is hardly a complaint.

When the dramatically restyled Sonata arrived in early 2011, it immediately became the belle of the midsize segment's low-key ball.

The situation hasn't changed—for now. My Sonata still wore a large, wavy chrome grille flanked by huge headlamps.

They pushed into a hood with raised edges that flowed nicely into a steeply sloped windshield and rakish top.

A prominent character line/ridge made the muscular body look even more chiseled, running hard through the chrome door handles and around to the Hyundai's large tail lamps.

The body crouched tightly over 225/45 tires on semi-polished five-spoke wheels, looking kind of like something you might see in a BMW showroom.

If you opted for the mainstream Sonata, though, you mostly got style over substance—a nice-looking sedan that drove a lot like a Toyota Camry.

Most Sonatas get a 2.4-liter, normally aspirated four with 200 horsepower, which provides adequate motivation for the 3,400-pound sedan.

But if you want the car to really come alive—to truly fill out its department-store silk shirt—go for the optional turbocharged four.

The performance package will cost you an extra $3,500 or so and reduce fuel economy by about two miles per gallon.

NUTS & BOLTS

2012 Hyundai Sonata SE 2.0T:

- Type of vehicle: Front-engine, front-wheel-drive, five-passenger sedan
- Fuel economy: 22 miles per gallon city, 34 highway
- Weight: 3,443 pounds
- Engine: Turbocharged, direct-injected two-liter four-cylinder with 274 horsepower and 269 pound-feet of torque
- Transmission: Six-speed automatic
- Performance: 0 to 60 mph in 6.2 seconds
- Safety rating: Unrated
- Base price, excluding destination charge: $24,745
- Price as tested, including destination charge: $27,680

SOURCES: *Hyundai Motor America; Car and Driver*

But it's money well-spent, I think. You'll get a stylish, practical family sedan that is rated at 22 mpg in the city, can sprint to 60 in about six seconds and costs less than $28,000.

That's a lot of virtue and value in my book.

It was evident in the Sonata's contemporary black interior, as well.

Though hardly plush, it was nicely executed. A large flat dashboard cascaded down onto a huge center stack—a standard Hyundai design element.

A medium-sized navigation screen resided at the top of the stack, with sound-system and climate controls beneath.

Black leather-like seats with patterned cloth centers provided decent support, and swoopy black door panels fit the Sonata's suburban-chic personality.

When you're behind the wheel, though, you will be paying attention to the sizable, albeit well-muffled, eruptions beneath the hood.

Mighty Mouse shot away from lights, riding a big wave of torque and low-end power—as well it should, I suppose.

A twin-scroll turbo blasts the direct-injected motor with 17.4 pounds of pressure, which is pretty darn stout. In fact, it produces 269 pound-feet of torque at a diesel-like 1,800 rpm.

Despite all the pressure, the engine feels refined and well-balanced. And the power really swells in the low and mid ranges, where you need it.

Tied to a reasonably good six-speed automatic, the little over-achiever four feels like a big six. And thanks to modern differentials and computers, the front-wheel-drive Sonata rarely suffered from torque steer.

As the engine zinged toward its 6,500 rpm red line, it felt a little coarse and flat. But this is still the only motor I'd have in a Sonata.

Altima driver's window won't close in one touch

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: The driver's window in my 2004 Nissan Altima won't close properly. It goes down normally with a touch of the button, but when I close it, the dang thing hits the top and bounces down about 4 inches. To get it closed, I have to tap the button over and over so it rises half-inch by half-inch. All other windows work fine. After three years of this, my wife thinks it's time to fix it. Can you help?

ANSWER: It seems the window safety switch thinks the glass has hit something—like fingers—before fully closing. This causes the window to reopen several inches to free any pinched pinkies.

Has any part of the power window system in that door ever been repaired, replaced, or worked on? If the glass, window runs/tracks, motor or regulator has ever been serviced, the window travel limits must be adjusted. There is a limit switch built into the power window motor assembly, meaning the interior door trim must be removed to gain access.

The procedure to reset the window travel limits is simple. Bump the window to the fully closed position, as you've been doing. Then, press and hold the reset switch on the motor and lower the window to the fully open position. Release the reset switch and make sure it returns to its original position. Close the window—it should stop in the correct position.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I have a 1998 Jeep Cherokee Sport that has a left rear driving light out. These are replacement LED bulbs. The light works when the brakes are applied, so I know the bulb is not burned out. I tried multiple bulbs including the original incandescent bulbs. Also, when connected to my boat trailer, neither of the LED trailer driving lights will work when my headlights are on, but both work when brakes are applied or hazards are on. The right rear driving light of my Jeep works properly. Any suggestions where I might start to troubleshoot?

A: According to my Alldata automotive database, the trailer wiring harness is connected to the left rear taillight harness. Start by checking the 10 amp fuse #7 in the junction box mounted in the passenger footwell. It provides power to the left rear running light and trailer lights. The harness connections for the left rear taillights and trailer lights are located in the left rear corner of the cargo area, as are the key ground connections for these circuits.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I own a 2000 Buick Park Avenue Ultra. Last month I was driving the car up an exit ramp, and it simply quit. All the power stopped, and all dashboard indicator lights went out. I waited about five minutes, restarted the car and it went on fine. My regular mechanic couldn't find anything wrong, as it didn't happen when he took it for a test drive. I added an anti-vapor solution to the gas tank in case it was a vapor lock. It still continued to stall on intermittent trips. It always starts up again after a minute or two. I recently had the fuel filter changed. This past week, it stalled five times within a 10-mile radius. What do you think is wrong?

A: Since the instrument lights all go out when it stalls, I'd focus on an electrical issue. What other circumstance causes the car to stop running and all the indicator lights to go out? Turning off the key, of course. The possible culprits could be as simple as a poor quality connection at the battery, a ground connection, or a worn or faulty ignition switch. Next time it stalls, try wiggling the key while it's still in the "on" position—do the instrument lights flicker or come back on? That could indicate a problem with the ignition switch.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, *is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Email him at paulbrand@startribune.com.*

Hyundai, Kia promise to refund buyers for inaccurate mileage

Hyundai and Kia say they will reimburse owners for incorrect mileage ratings, and the automakers say they are sorry for the problem.

"I sincerely apologize to all affected Hyundai and Kia customers, and I regret these errors occurred," said Dr. W. C. Yang, chief technology officer of Hyundai/Kia research and development.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, after a probe of mileage-related complaints, announced Friday that it discovered window-sticker miles-per-gallon ratings are too high on most 2012 and 2013 Hyundai and Kia models. The automakers are re-labeling the vehicles.

The automakers said they are "voluntarily adjusting the fuel economy ratings for approximately 900,000, or 35 percent, of 2011-13 model-year vehicles sold through Oct. 31, 2012."

The companies say they will reimburse affected owners and previous owners via debit cards, the amount based on "additional fuel costs associated with the fuel economy rating change. Customers will receive a personalized debit card that will reimburse them for their difference in the EPA combined fuel economy rating, based on the fuel price in their area and their own actual miles driven.

"In addition, as an acknowledgement of the inconvenience this may cause, we will add an extra 15 percent to the reimbursement amount. Current owners will be able to refresh their debit card for as long as they own the vehicle.

"Prior owners of affected vehicles who have already sold their cars will also be reimbursed using the same formula." ***(USA Today)***

Life & Style

Five questions with Andrew Lincoln of 'The Walking Dead'

By DAVID MARTINDALE
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

FORT WORTH, Texas—For Andrew Lincoln, "The Walking Dead" represents the best of both worlds. As Rick Grimes, leader of a group of survivors during a zombie apocalypse, he has done some of the most nuanced acting of his career.

That's because the hit AMC series isn't just about battling flesh-eating ghouls. It's also about relationships, love, courage and more. That's the aspect of the show that Lincoln likes most: exploring human emotions.

That said, he does enjoy getting in touch with his inner warrior.

"There's nothing like putting an ax in someone's head," the English-born actor says. "It's an incredible release. The joy of doing the show is that you turn up for work and you have no idea what is in store for you in a day."

"The Walking Dead," which airs at 9 p.m. ET Sunday, is fun to watch for the very same reason.

1. What first attracted you to this show three years ago?

I'd never read anything like it. And doing something new is exciting and terrifying. The pilot was almost like a grand operatic feature film in the way that it said something about humanity in the middle of hell.

2. With Rick, there's always a moral code, a line he won't cross. Yet he winds up crossing that line every time. Do you like portraying such a conflicted character?

The moral ambiguity is one of the joys of playing Rick. I'm reading a book at the moment called *The Wisdom of Psychopaths*. One of the scenarios in it is there's a car on a railroad track rolling towards five people and it will kill them. There's also a man in front of you who, if you push him in front of the car, it will save the lives of the five people. It tests the psychopathic mentality. Which choice do you make? The psychopath says it's a no-brainer: Push the man. He dies, but you save five for the price of one. I mention this because, in our show, we play out those scenarios in a very real way every week, which is thrilling.

3. Is it true that the zombie stuntmen are the unsung heroes of "The Walking Dead"?

A lot of credit has to go to the people who play the Walkers, these incredible stuntmen that get kicked and stabbed. I stuck a knife in one of these. It was a dummy knife, but I stuck it so close to him it sort of went in his mouth at one point. He was fine and he didn't get hurt. But I still felt the need to apologize.

4. The relationship between Rick and his pregnant wife, Lori, is very rocky. Will they work things out?

These two people love each other at a cellular level. They've been sweethearts. They're the first and last loves. So there has to be some hope.

5. What's the scariest movie or TV show you ever saw?

I watched "The Omen" when I was about 8 years old. Way too young. And I watched the whole thing. I was completely traumatized. I couldn't sleep. And my brother leaned over to me after I watched it and said, "That is all true. It's in the Bible." Now, every time I hear that music, I'm terrified.

LOS ANGELES TIME/MCT

Andrew Lincoln is shown on the set of "The Walking Dead," the zombie series on AMC in June 2012.

Sandy benefit concert draws $23 million in pledges

LOS ANGELES (AP)—NBC says its benefit concert for Superstorm Sandy victims drew nearly $23 million in donations to the American Red Cross.

Friday's hour-long telethon included performances by artists native to the areas hardest-hit by Sandy, including New Jersey natives Bruce Springsteen and Jon Bon Jovi and Billy Joel of New York's Long Island. Others who took part in the special included Sting, Christina Aguilera, Mary J. Blige, Tina Fey and Jon Stewart.

The telethon's mood was somber but hopeful, from Aguilera's "Beautiful" to Bon Jovi's "Livin' on a Prayer."

Pledges made by phone and online totaled $22.9 million, NBCUniversal and the American Red Cross said.

Sandy's assault last week killed more than 100 people in 10 states and created widespread damage and power outages.

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing or a minimum of 3 years work related experience required. Preferably with F&B/restaurant operations and menu preparation experience. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Nihonngo or Korean language will be advantage. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. A valid driver's license is required along with a clean driving record. Availability to work on evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by November 15, 2012. Applications may also be sent to:info@dqsaipan.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Century Tours, Saipan

Opening Date: November 6, 2012 **Position:** Operations Clerk (3)
Closing Date: November 13, 2012 **Salary:** $5.55 per hour

Duties: Performs all and/or any combination of following clerical duties requiring knowledge of systems or procedures: operates office machines, such as desktop computers, laptops, typewriter, adding, calculating, and duplicating machines; enters room bookings and room report for bookings into computer and forwards the information to Shanghai office via email and telephone; confirms and reconfirms hotel bookings with Shanghai office; inform Tour Guides of guests bus number assignments; prepare correspondence, bills, statements, receipts, or other documents, copying information from one record to another; photocopies documents, using photocopier; answers correspondence and emails, and prepares mail and email to Shanghai office; obtains travel and hotel accommodations for guests; prepares tour schedules and itineraries, and compiles reports of transactions; obtains confirmation of travel and lodging space and rate information; prepares guests tour booklet, copy of tour itinerary, written lodging confirmations and tour suggestions. answers guests and Shanghai office inquiries concerning tour routes, sightseeing schedules, fares and fees, and accommodations; prepare activity forms for Tour Guides; prepare key envelopes for incoming guests; sorts and files records; copies data and compiles records and reports; finalize guests name list to hotels; make bus reservations; Answers telephone, conveys messages, and runs errands; reply to Shanghai office emails, and perform other related duties assigned or as required.

Position Requirements: High School graduate, GED or equivalent plus 2 years work experience in tour operation, sales or service related experience; must be able to speak, read, and understand Mandarin; excellent communication, organizational, and sales skills preferred; must valid driver's license with clean driving record; must be willing to work evenings, holidays, and weekends.

Application: Applications may be obtained from the Front Office of Century Tours, located at the Kanoa Resort, Saipan, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan.

KANOA RESORT SAIPAN
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions :

Position (1) SOUS CHEF
Duties: Supervises and coordinates activities of COOKS and other workers engaged in preparing and cooking stuff. Observes workers engaged in preparing, portioning and garnishing foods to ensure that methods of cooking and garnishing foods to ensure that methods of cooking and garnishing and sizes of portions are prescribed. Gives instructions to cooking personnel in fine points of cooking. Cooks and carves meats and prepare dishes, such as sauces, during rush periods and for banquet and other social functions. Assumes responsibility for kitchen in absence of Executive Chef.

Qualifications: Ability to direct and participate in the preparation and cooking of food. Must be able to work variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends. Five (5) years work experience as a Sous Chef is required and preferably in the hospitality industry.

Position (1) GUEST SERVICE AGENT
Duties: Greets, registers and assigns rooms to guest. Issues room key and escort instructions to Bellhop/Bellman. Date stamps, sorts and racks incoming mail and messages. Transmit and receives messages, using telephone or telephone switchboard. Answers inquiries pertaining to hotel services, registrations of guests, and shopping, dinning, entertainment and travel directions. Keeps records of room availability and guests accounts manually or using computer. Computes bills, collects payment and make changes for guest. Makes and confirms reservations. May post charges, such as room, food, liquor or telephone to ledger, manually or using computer. May make restaurant, transportation or entertainment reservation and arrange for tours. May deposit guests valuables in hotel safe or safe deposit box. Responsible in providing guest fast, friendly and efficient service.

Qualifications: Must have knowledge in Microsoft Office Applications and Fidelio System. Must have outstanding ability to perform several tasks at once. Must be able to work flexible schedule including weekends, nights and holidays. Must have strong customer service and interpersonal skills. Frequent standing and walking on the job is required. Must have at least 2 years work experience as guest service and/or reservation agent. Must be of high school graduate or equivalent. Must have knowledge in foreign language and be able to speak, read and write in Japanese language or in Chinese language.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than November 10, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is located next to Saipan World Resort
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Wreck-It Ralph 3D

Friday		7:05	9:35
Saturday & Sunday	1:05	7:05	9:35
Monday	1:05	7:05	
Tuesday thru Thursday		7:05	

Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Wreck-It Ralph 2D

Friday	4:05
Saturday & Sunday	4:05
Monday	4:05
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:05

Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Paranormal Activity 4

Friday		7:15
Saturday & Sunday	1:15	7:15
Monday	1:15	7:15
Tuesday thru Thursday		7:15

Cast: Stephen Dunham, Alexondra Lee
Genre: Horror • Rated R

Here Comes The Boom

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday & Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Monday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Cast: Kevin James, Henry Winkler, Salma Hayek
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG

Fun Size

Friday	4:15	9:45
Saturday & Sunday	4:15	9:45
Monday	4:15	
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:15	

Cast: Victoria Justice, Thomas Mann, Chelsea Handler
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG 13

Silent Hill: Revelation 3D

Friday		7:30	10:00
Saturday & Sunday	1:30	7:30	10:00
Monday	1:30	7:30	
Tuesday thru Thursday		7:30	

Cast: Adelaide Clemens, Carrie-Anne Moss
Genre: Horror • Rated R

Silent Hill: Revelation 2D

Friday	4:30
Saturday & Sunday	4:30
Monday	4:30
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:30

Cast: Adelaide Clemens, Carrie-Anne Moss
Genre: Horror • Rated R

A Secret Affair

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:40
Saturday & Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:40
Monday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Tuesday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Cast: Anne Curtis, Derek Ramsay, Andi Eigenmann
Genre: Romance, Drama • Rated PG 13

Pitch Perfect

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:55
Saturday & Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:55
Monday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Sunday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Cast: Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Ben Platt
Genre: Comedy • Rated PG13

Hotel Transylvania 3D

Friday			7:25	9:50
Saturday & Sunday	1:25		7:25	9:50
Monday	1:25		7:25	
Tuesday thru Thursday			7:25	

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Hotel Transylvania 2D

Friday	4:25
Saturday & Sunday	4:25
Monday	4:25
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:25

Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

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Lucas plans 'little personal films' in future

NEW YORK (AP)—George Lucas is done with "Star Wars," but not with filmmaking.

The "Star Wars" creator says he still plans to make his "own little personal films."

Lucas spoke Friday night while attending Ebony magazine's Power 100 Gala, days after announcing the sale of his storied Lucasfilm to Disney for $4.05 billion. The deal would allow for more "Star Wars" films. While Lucas will be a creative consultant, longtime collaborator Kathleen Kennedy will be in control.

When asked if he'd have a hand in picking a director for the films, he said, "I've turned it over to a wonderful producer, Kathy Kennedy, and I've known her for years. She's more than capable of taking it and making it better than I did."

Lucas

Lucas admitted mixed emotions about letting Lucasfilm go. "It's very sad. It's 40 years of work and it's been my life, but I'm ready to move on to bigger and better things."

Among them are his educational foundation, which will be a major beneficiary of the money he got for Lucasfilm.

"Mostly it will be philanthropy but I'm also going to make my own little personal films," he said of his plans.

His last film was this year's "Red Tails," which told the story of the Tuskegee Airmen, a legendary black flight unit formed in 1941 that debunked widely held beliefs that black pilots were incapable of fighting in combat. While he described that film as a labor of love, he said, "I'm going to go further out than that. I barely got 'Red Tails' into the theaters. The ones I'm working on now will never get into the theaters."

Chris Isaak fills Sun Studio shoes nicely

By NICK CRISTIANO
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

PHILADELPHIA—Chris Isaak figures it was normal to feel some trepidation going to record for the first time at the storied Sun Studio in Memphis.

"I'm standing at the front door with my drummer," Isaak recalls over the phone from a New York hotel. "I said, 'You know, Elvis Presley put his hand on this doorknob and he was scared. And Johnny Cash put his hand on this and he was scared. ...' So I didn't feel so bad being scared walking in."

Of course, if any modern-day artist would be a natural fit for Sun, it's the 56-year-old Isaak, whose retro-infused style carries echoes of both Elvis and Roy Orbison, among the many greats who recorded at Sun in the '50s and who have long obsessed him.

And he does sound right at home in the tiny studio, as you can hear on "Beyond the Sun," an album in which Isaak and his band tackle rockers and ballads by Elvis, Orbison, Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and lesser-known Sun artists. (Some of the selections come from the artists' post-Sun careers, hence the album title.)

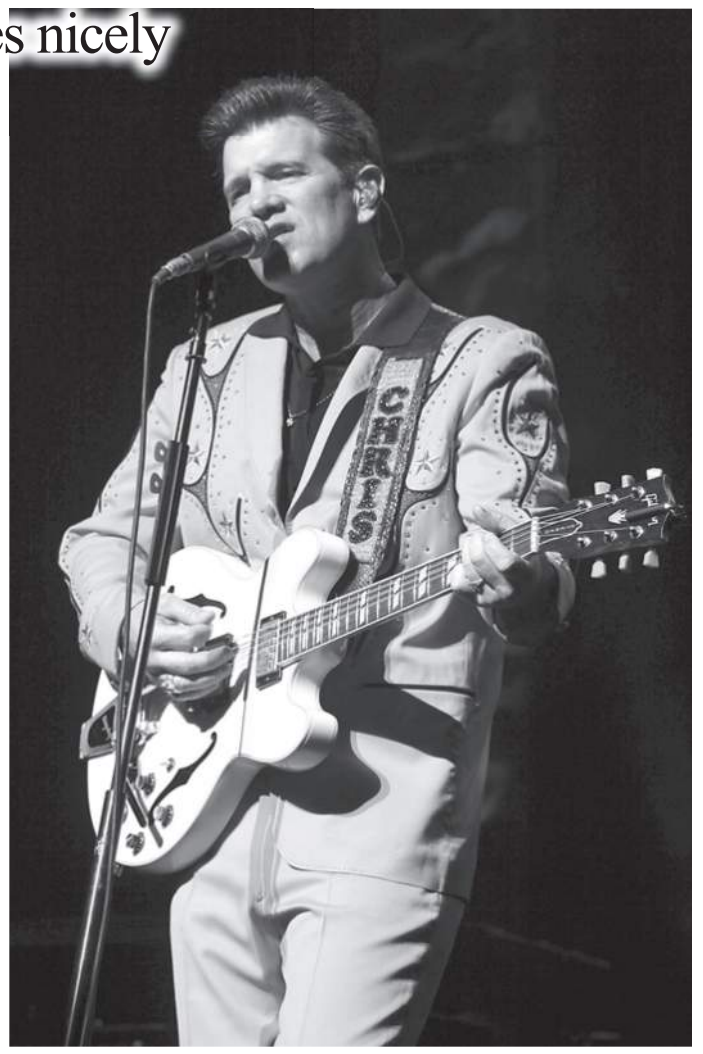
"You can't help but feel the history in that room," the San Franciscan says. "To stand on a spot where Elvis Presley stood exactly, where Jerry Lee Lewis stood over there on the piano ..."

Just as in the heyday of Sun, Isaak and the band cut live in the studio, something he had never done before. It makes a difference. You've never heard the singer and his group rock as hard and sound quite as unhinged as they do on the Jimmy Wages obscurity "Miss Pearl."

"I told the guys, 'I'm not holding back,'" Isaak remembers. "My guitar player, after we got done, he says, 'Man, in all the years playing with you, I've never heard you sing like that.' I go, 'Well, I can never just blow it out because I'm always playing tomorrow night, so I always save a little bit.' But when I was doing that in the studio, it was like, I'm going for broke, and I had a ball."

That said, Isaak is in fact doing "Miss Pearl" at his shows—"because it amuses and confuses people."

"Beyond the Sun" also contains a couple of Isaak originals, including the terrific rocker "Live It Up," which sounds like a lost Sun classic. According to Isaak, original Elvis guitarist Scotty Moore even asked him which Sun artist had originally cut it.



MCT

Chris Isaak performs live at the Beacon Theatre in New York City on August 7, 2007.

The singer and guitarist has long had a second career in movies and TV, and he says he has a new TV project in the works. But those kinds of things will always take a backseat to music.

"It doesn't compare to what I get to do every night—playing on the stage."

Not wrecked by Sandy, 'Ralph' tops box office

NEW YORK (AP)—The weekend box office was not only undeterred by the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, it was buoyed by it.

Disney's "Wreck-It Ralph" opened strongly with $49.1 million and Robert Zemeckis' "Flight," starring Denzel Washington, soared to a $25 million debut. Both opened above expectations, capitalizing on East Coast audiences looking for distraction amid the recovery from the storm.

"Wreck-It Ralph," a 3-D animated family film about a video game villain who tries to break free of his role, is the largest box-office opening ever for Walt Disney Animation, which has produced countless cartoon classics (though it doesn't include Disney's lucrative Pixar Animation).

1. "**Wreck-It Ralph**," $49.1 million *($12 million international).*
2. "**Flight**," $25 million.
3. "**Argo**," $10.2 million.
4. "**The Man With the Iron Fists**," $10.2 million.
5. "**Taken 2**," $6 million *($6.2 million international).*
6. "**Cloud Atlas**," $5.3 million.
7. "**Hotel Transylvania**," $4.5 million *($13.7 million international).*
8. "**Paranormal Activity 4**," $4.3 million *($14.3 million international).*
9. "**Here Comes the Boom**," $3.6 million.
10. "**Silent Hill: Revelation**," $3.3 million.

"We didn't really have a playbook for this," said Hollywood.com box office analyst Paul Dergarabedian. "But the numbers show that audiences across the country, and particularly in the Northeast, wanted to go to the movies and they did."

With many East Coast children out of school on Friday, Disney saw an uptick of business for Friday matinees to the well-reviewed "Wreck-It Ralph."

Paramount's"Flight," which had a smaller opening—1,884 theaters, or about half the number of "Wreck-It Ralph"—might have been expected to be more harmed by Sandy, considering adult dramas generally depend heavily on the New York City market. But the film, which has earned critical raves and Oscar buzz, proved particularly enticing to moviegoers, many of whom were surely pulled in by the star power of Washington, who plays an airline pilot of both heroic skill and debilitating alcoholism.

"When you look up his filmography—it doesn't matter whether it was yesterday or 20 years ago—Denzel opens movies," said Paramount distribution head Don Harris.

Ben Affleck's Iran hostage tale "Argo," in its fourth week of release, expanded to 2,774 theaters. The Warner Bros. film added $10.2 million, bringing its cumulative gross to $75.9 million—a healthy haul for a film expected to be in the thick of the Oscar hunt.

Overseas, the James Bond film "Skyfall" continued to dominate. It took in $156 million over the weekend bringing its international total to $287 million. The film opens in North America on Friday.

Foxx, Wonder among stars honoring Eddie Murphy

LOS ANGELES (AP)—However riotous the Eddie Murphy stories from Arsenio Hall, Tracy Morgan, Adam Sandler and Russell Brand, the highlight of Spike TV's tribute to Murphy was the comedian's duet with Stevie Wonder.

Murphy joined the subject of one of his most classic impressions for a rousing rendition of Wonder's 1973 hit "Higher Ground" during the taping of the Spike TV special "Eddie Murphy: One Night Only," which is set to air Nov. 14. The Roots served as the house band.

Jamie Foxx, Tyler Perry, Martin Lawrence, Chris Rock and Keenan Ivory Wayans were also among those paying tribute to Murphy on Saturday at the Saban Theater.

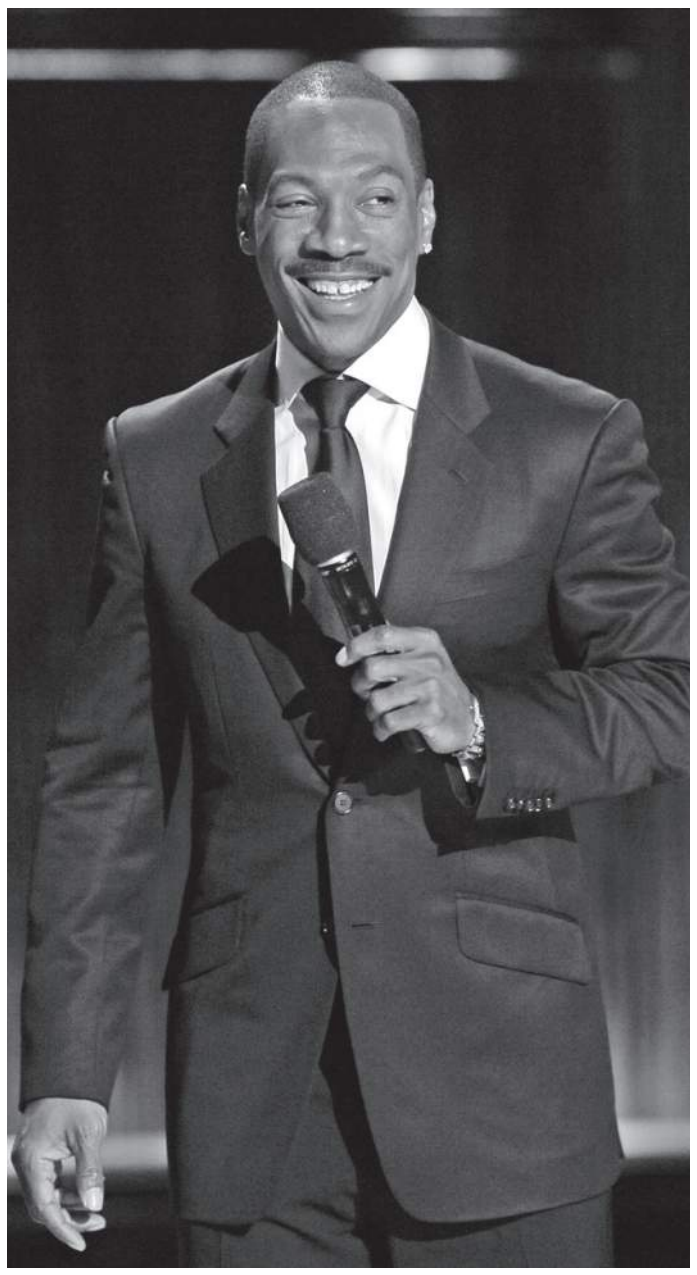
Accompanied by a pretty blonde, Murphy beamed throughout the two-hour program Saturday, saying he was touched by the tribute.

"I am a very, very bitter man," he said with a beguiling smile. "I don't get touched easily, and I am really touched."

Morgan called Murphy "my comic hero" and came onstage wearing a replica of Murphy's red leather suit from his standup show "Delirious."

"He set the tone for the whole industry a long time ago," Morgan said before Saturday's tribute. "He inspired me in a fearless way."

Sandler said he was still in high school when he first saw "Delirious," which he described as "one of the most legendary standup specials of all time."



AP

Eddie Murphy addresses the audience at the close of "Eddie Murphy: One Night Only," a celebration of Murphy's career at the Saban Theater on Saturday, Nov. 3, 2012, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

"Everybody on the planet wanted to be Eddie," he said. "He funnier than us. He's cooler than any of us."

Samuel L. Jackson said Murphy "changed the course of American film history" by giving Jackson his first speaking role on the big screen, in 1988's "Coming to America."

"If it weren't for Eddie, we might not have all the wonderful films that I've made," Jackson said.

"He is a true movie star," Jackson continued, lauding Murphy's performance in "48 Hours" and "Beverly Hills Cop." ''You became an inspiration for all young African-American actors."

The program featured clips of Murphy's standup shows, his films such as "Shrek" and "The Nutty Professor" and his work on "Saturday Night Live."

Murphy insisted before the tribute that he is retired.

"I'm just a retired old song and dance man," he said, adding that he only makes rare appearances these days. "That's what you do when you're retired: You come out every now and then and talk about the old days."

The 51-year-old entertainer took the stage at the conclusion of the tribute to say that he was moved by the honor.

"This is really a touching moving thing, and I really appreciate it," he said. "You know what it's like when you have something like this? You know when they sing Happy Birthday to you? It's like that for, like, two hours... and I am Eddied out."

Obama enlisting A-list to act as surrogates

CINCINNATI (AP)—President Barack Obama is counting on former President Bill Clinton and Bruce Springsteen, top surrogates for his campaign, to carry his message. But he also has enlisted an army of A-list performers and public figures -- from Lady Gaga to Billie Jean King, from Jay-Z to Crosby, Stills and Nash—to promote his re-election.

The Obama campaign provided a who's-who of 181 actors, musicians, authors, athletes, mayors, Congress members, and more that fit any and all demographic groups in the president's target zone. All are being deployed to carry his message to television and radio in the waning days of a nip-and-tuck campaign.

On Saturday, Stevie Wonder played an unannounced concert for voters waiting in line to vote early in Cleveland. Wonder opened a rally for Obama by rocking the arena at the University of Cincinnati with a rendition of "Keep on Running."

Songwriter John Legend, actor Laurence Fishburne, and congressman and civil rights hero John Lewis, D-Ga., were among those who went to Ohio to lead a "Souls to the Polls" effort with local churches.

The list includes some of Hollywood's big names—Samuel L. Jackson, Anne Hathaway, and Scarlett Johansson—who were talking to Top 40 radio stations. Jackson and comedian Chris Rock were on stations with primarily African American audiences urging voters to go to the polls Tuesday.

Danny DeVito and members of the FX sitcom "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" have canvassed neighborhoods in Wisconsin, made phone calls and visited colleges in the state.

Others on the Obama list include Black Eyed Peas' front man Will.i.am and rock band leaders such as Jim James of My Morning Jacket and Jeff Tweedy of Wilco.

Celebrity sells. Now it remains to be seen if voters buy.

NBC sites hacked by 'pyknic'; quickly restored

WASHINGTON (AP)—Several NBC websites were hacked on Sunday by a person or group calling itself "pyknic" and suggesting a possible link to the cyber-attack group Anonymous.

It appeared that the "defacement" of the affected sub-sites was cleaned up in a couple hours. NBC and its various websites appeared to be functioning normally as of Sunday evening Eastern time. However, older versions maintained by search engines such as Google and Bing still bore the message "hacked by pyknic"—a possible reference to an obscure hacker or "hacktivist" group.

The message said "Remember, remember the fifth of November." That reference suggested a link to Anonymous, a movement of cyber rebels which has appropriated much of the symbolism around Britain's upcoming Guy Fawkes Day, a holiday meant to mark the failed plot to blow up the country's parliament in 1605.

However, conclusively determining responsibility for such attacks can be nearly impossible.

Also defaced by "pyknic" Sunday was a Lady Gaga fan site, Gaga Daily, an act which drew a sympathetic message from the pop star on Twitter.

"My little angels! help is on the way," the message read, adding that "haus of gaga techies will be on it ... to the rescue. calling them now."

The site was soon restored.

Anonymous and its offshoot Lulz Security have been linked to a number of high-profile computer attacks and crimes, including many that were meant to embarrass governments, federal agencies and corporate giants.

Spokesmen for NBC Universal declined to comment. An FBI spokesman didn't immediately return a telephone message seeking comment.

What election? Sandy's the big story on 'SNL'

NEW YORK (AP)—You wouldn't have known it was the Saturday before the election on "Saturday Night Live."

Sure, Mitt Romney, played by Jason Sudeikis, made a quick appearance on "Weekend Update," but otherwise much of the focus was on Superstorm Sandy—and Mayor Michael Bloomberg's sign-language interpreter, Lydia Callis.

The real Callis has gained some pop-culture popularity with her enthusiastic interpreting of Bloomberg's words. She was back at the mayor's side at Saturday's briefing in New York and was played on "SNL" by Cecily Strong. The mayor—played by Fred Armisen—thanked Callis for bringing "pizazz" to her job.

Hosting Saturday's show was comedian and TV star Louis C.K. He said in the monologue of New York City: "We're still standing."

President Barack Obama didn't appear on the show.

Woman's gifts of friendship are now being sold online

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have a close friend who is obsessed with selling "finds" on eBay. I often give her little items that she has mentioned she liked—or outright asked for. I always thought she wanted to keep them for herself. Recently I saw some of the things I gave her for sale under her eBay account.

I am dismayed that she is taking advantage of my generosity to make a few bucks. No, she is not desperate. And no, I don't feel comfortable saying something unless it's clever and I won't appear to be jealous or petty.

TRACI IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR TRACI: You don't have to say anything clever. What you should do is tell your friend that you were hurt when you saw the items she had requested up for sale on her eBay account. Period. And in the future, be a little less generous about providing stock for her retail venture.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Over the years, I have seen many letters from soon-to-be-brides asking if they should include their husband's sister or other female friend in their bridal party, even if they don't know them. There is a solution.

This summer, I was honored to be the best man at the wedding of a close friend. He had a female friend, "Liz," whom he wanted in the wedding party. Liz didn't know the bride, so instead of having her be a bridesmaid, Liz was a groomswoman. She stood in photos with the groomsmen, and even wore a matching outfit—a lovely gray dress with a red ribbon to match our gray suits and red ties.

BEST MAN IN REDMOND, WASH.

DEAR BEST MAN: That is certainly an appropriate solution to something that shouldn't be a problem in the first place. Women have also occasionally served in the capacity of "best man." I'm glad you mentioned it.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have seen letters in your column referring to not being invited to children's birthday parties and the hurt that follows. It's amazing to me that some adults have also never learned the importance of being sensitive to the feelings of others.

We recently moved into an established neighborhood where a group of adults go on trips, out to dinner, etc. I am old enough to realize that my husband and I will not be invited to everything. But I am not "old enough" not to feel a stab of pain and isolation when group plans are discussed in my presence and we are not invited.

Somewhere along the line, people need to learn not to discuss group activities in front of those who are not included. No one wants to feel left out.

NEWCOMER TO MINNESOTA

DEAR NEWCOMER: You've said it well. While I don't think the offenders are being deliberately cruel, if people would think before opening their mouths, a lot of hurt feelings could be avoided.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm just wondering what you and your readers think about this: If you see your doctor only once a year (or less if you are well), but you have been going to that doctor for five years or so, should that doctor remember you?

LOUISE IN ARIZONA

DEAR LOUISE: It depends on the volume of patients the doctor has in his (or her) practice. However, before seeing you, the doctor should certainly familiarize himself (or herself) with your file so you are not being seen "cold."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

LOOK, HOBBES, I GOT A MYSTERIOUS LETTER! THE RETURN ADDRESS IS A SKULL WITH X-ED OUT EYES!
IT HAS A LOCAL POSTMARK, THOUGH, SO I MUST KNOW THE PERSON.
OH BOY, INTRIGUE!
BUT WHO WOULD SEND ME AN ANONYMOUS, WEIRD LETTER LIKE THIS?
MAYBE A GIRL!
GAAAA! DOESN'T THE POST OFFICE SCREEN ANYTHING?!
I'LL GET YOU SOME GLOVES!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

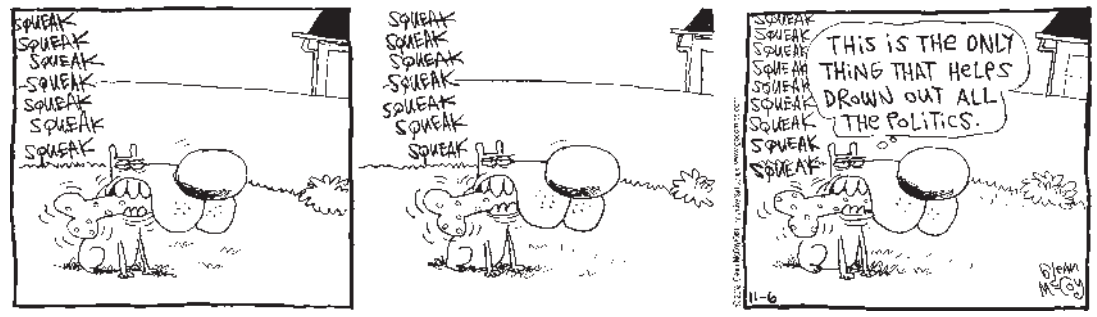
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

PERCY, YOU HAVE TO TELL SOMEONE IF YOU'VE BEEN BULLIED.
AND RISK THEIR WRATH AGAIN?
I PREFER SILENCE
THEN I'M GOING TO TELL SOMEONE.
IT WILL LIKELY PLACE YOU ON THEIR RADAR.
I DON'T CARE. WE HAVE TO STAND FOR SOMETHING!
SHOULD NOT HAVE DROPPED MY BANANA PEEL THERE.
FFWIP

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

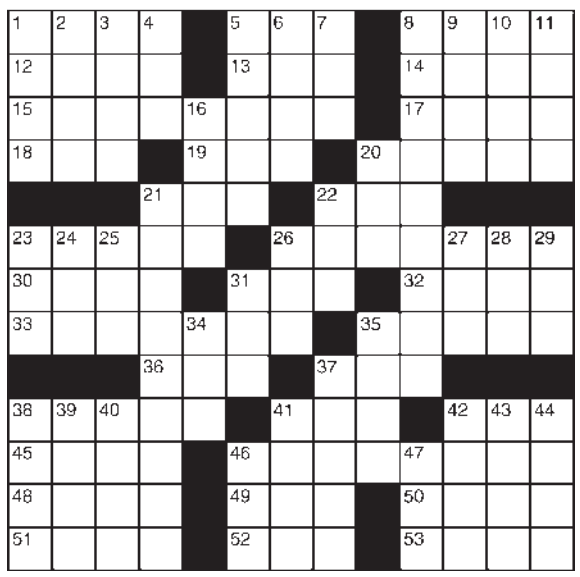
ACROSS
1 Choir voice
5 Tackle the slopes
8 Mediocre
12 Prompted
13 Moray, for one
14 Helper
15 Chris Matthews' show
17 Shakespearean king
18 "Delicious!"
19 Rock band's need
20 Vertical
21 Saute
22 Peter Pan rival
23 Stereo setups
26 Resident
30 Lotion additive
31 Spicy
32 Green land
33 Kadiddlehopper portrayer
35 Aquatic plant life
36 Female deer
37 Bouquets-to-order co.
38 High
41 Sticky stuff
42 Tier
45 Culture medium
46 Concealed trigger
48 Sandwich shop
49 That guy's
50 Admitting customers
51 Kennel squeal
52 Choose
53 Sunrise direction

DOWN
1 Sore
2 Hawaiian feast
3 Expression
4 Peculiar
5 Sordid
6 Edible seaweed
7 Under the weather
8 Diamond location
9 Stead
10 First man
11 KFC flavorer
16 Taverns
20 Cushion insert
21 Educational visit
22 Lustrous black
23 Owns
24 Sort
25 Enemy
26 Put on
27 Sharp turn
28 Historic period
29 Born
31 Weeding tool
34 Monkey (with)
35 On
37 Palm off (on)
38 "— and the Tramp"
39 Curved molding
40 Respond to gravity
41 Clench
42 Kelly of morning TV
43 Raw rocks
44 Took off
46 Nevertheless, for short
47 Travail

Solution time: 21 mins.

B	A	H			G	U	S		E	V	A	N
O	V	U	M		A	S	H		V	E	R	B
B	O	L	O		L	E	E		E	X	E	C
S	W	A	R	M		D	A	M	N			
			N	E	W		F	O	I	B	L	E
J	A	N	I	T	O	R		O	N	A	I	R
I	C	O	N		K	I	T		G	L	E	N
B	R	I	G	S		P	O	S	S	E	S	S
S	E	R	G	E	I		M	A	H			
			L	A	V	A		Y	A	C	H	T
A	M	M	O		O	C	T		D	O	O	R
P	O	U	R		R	H	O		E	L	B	A
E	D	G	Y		Y	E	W			T	O	Y

Yesterday's answer 11-6



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Emma Stone, 24; Ethan Hawke, 42; Maria Shriver, 57; Sally Field, 66.

Happy Birthday: Refuse to get involved in melodrama. Don't limit the possibilities when it comes to your abilities and utilizing what you have to work with in order to get ahead. Own what you have to offer, display it proudly and you will get the kind of response you need to reach the success you are searching for. Your numbers are 8, 14, 22, 26, 34, 40, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Travel, regardless of distance, to enjoy the company of someone you share an interest with or who can contribute to what you are working toward. A change in your financial situation is apparent and a personal investment will pay off. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Give-and-take will be necessary if you want to maintain balance at work or within a partnership. Don't let emotions run wild. Use your imagination wisely to differentiate what you have to offer. Put pressure on anyone holding you back. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Choose your friends and colleagues wisely. You will be prone to getting involved with someone who withholds information or is vague. Love is in the stars. Networking will bring about both personal and professional opportunities. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Mingle with people who are into the same things you are. A creative hobby will bring about various options that will enable you to explore new avenues, pastimes and lifestyles. Don't let a jealous relationship stand in your way. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): The people you are closest to will be the most difficult to deal with. Keep an open mind and schedule interesting activities. A personal change will do you good. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't mix business with pleasure. Avoid anyone looking for an argument or trying to pressure you into something you'd prefer not to do. Overreacting, overspending and overindulging will end up ruining your personal plans. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Getting rid of clutter will serve a purpose. The help you give by donating items you no longer use will benefit someone who can offer you insight in return. Exploring a creative idea will lead to prosperity. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Depression will set in if you let emotional issues concerning a relative or friend get to you. Try to separate what you do from those having a negative effect on your emotional wellness. Let your creative imagination lead to positive output. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Take a close look at any deal being offered and you will find a way to slant it in your favor. Use your charm or even a little innocent manipulation and you will be able to make changes that will improve your life. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You can pick up information that will help you advance if you are disciplined and attentive. Focus on consistency and responsibility and you will win favors and the support you need from someone in a high position. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't question others or volunteer information that is likely to be used against you or to defeat you. Put more effort into your home, family and financial situation. You will also find a way to excel in a new and interesting direction. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Sit back and see what transpires. Secure your position by observing what others do. Stick to basics when discussing your plans. The less you share with others, the better you will do. For now, it's best to be secretive about your plans. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are colorful, generous, sociable and curious. You are a good sport.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4		8		6		9	
1		6				7		2
			5					
5				2		8		3
6		4		5				9
					7			
3		8				4		6
	5		6		1		7	

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	8	1	7	3	5	2	6	4
7	2	4	9	6	1	8	5	3
6	5	3	4	2	8	9	7	1
1	7	8	5	9	3	6	4	2
5	6	9	2	4	7	1	3	8
4	3	2	1	8	6	7	9	5
2	9	5	8	7	4	3	1	6
8	4	6	3	1	9	5	2	7
3	1	7	6	5	2	4	8	9

Difficulty Level ★ 11/05

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

A CAR IN THE SHOP — Solution: 7 letters

R	R	A	E	S	V	A	B	E	L	T	L	E	N	S
A	E	P	D	N	K	A	L	C	O	T	U	A	I	E
D	P	P	A	O	G	C	L	I	B	L	I	N	D	S
I	A	L	L	N	O	I	A	V	G	B	A	G	S	O
A	I	I	B	A	E	R	N	R	E	N	N	P	H	H
T	R	A	A	R	C	L	S	E	T	I	M	I	O	Y
O	E	N	T	E	A	E	S	S	R	S	U	E	R	R
R	N	C	T	D	B	K	M	E	A	L	F	C	N	A
E	R	E	E	N	L	S	E	E	I	O	F	E	S	T
P	U	L	R	I	E	T	M	S	N	O	L	S	P	O
I	B	D	I	R	S	N	E	I	M	T	E	A	M	R
W	U	N	E	G	S	R	D	N	R	E	R	O	U	P
P	L	A	S	T	I	C	I	K	T	T	T	N	P	I
A	B	H	C	T	I	W	S	L	S	O	I	A	L	P
S	S	A	L	G	D	E	C	K	R	T	A	X	L	E

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Alignment, Appliance, Auto, Axle, Bags, Batteries, Belt, Blinds, Brakes, Bulbs, Burner, Cables, Deck, Disc, Doors, Engine, Glass, Grinder, Handle, Horn, Hose, Lens, Metal, Motor, Muffler, Panels, Parts, Pieces, Pipe, Plastic, Pumps, Racks, Radiator, Repair, Replacement, Rims, Rotary, Service, Sink, Steering, Switch, Tires, Tools, Train, Unit, Valve, Wiper

Yesterday's Answer: Competition

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 24: Celebrate 24 (!!!) bursting-at-the-staples years of mind-stretching fun! To order, send $8.95 each (US funds) to: Uclick Puzzle Books, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106. Or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6479. Or order online at puzzles.uclick.com. Orders outside the U.S. add $2 per book for shipping.

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WHATZIT Solution: A big fish in a small pond

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Need cash fast??? We want to buy your OnePass miles or Skymiles!!! Call 888-2205.

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Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $250/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $450-$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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CALL NO.: (670) 287-2387

EMPLOYMENT

(3) Accountant
Opening Date: November 2, 2012
Closing Date: November 9, 2012

Must have a bachelor's degree in accounting or business admin, minimum of 5 yrs. accounting experience in A/R, A/P or payroll (preferably in stevedoring or transportation business) & knowledge of any accounting system, computer literate, w/ excellent communication skills & analytical capabilities, willing to work in flexible time with minimal supervision, & capable of dealing with various customers/suppliers.

Submit resume/pick-up application at Saipan Stevedore Co., Inc. office or send email to saisteve@pticom.com.

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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Petition for the Change of Name of: S.C.M. (d.o.b 11/1/2008) Minor Child **By:** **Charlyn Manzanilla Francisco,** Petitioner	**FCD CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0508** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on November 15, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 19th day of October, 2012.

BERNADITA SABLAN
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Vacancy Announcement

(2) Fish Processors
4-5 years working experience required.

Send resume to PMB 605 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
(US Citizen or Permanent Resident)

JVA for Kinpachi Restaurant

Yano Enterprises, Inc

Restaurant Waitress (3): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (2): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 years experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Bldg. 1, Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 12-033
Opening Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 7, 2012

Senior Engineering Technician

DUTIES: Under the general supervision of the Chief Engineer for the Water and Wastewater Division or his/her designee. Uses advanced technical computer applications to support engineering functions of the Division. Compiles As-Built drawings and expertly incorporates the data into existing composite system drawings. Performs field duties to include: collecting and gathering data; determining assembly requirements; preparing data for drawings; clearing underground facilities; providing storm damage assessments; conducting field inventories; conducting testing; conducting severance verifications by locating and verifying boundaries; conducting verifications on materials; and, conducting land title research. Prepares drawings, plans, as-builts and land acquisition documents; performs engineering calculations. Receives requests for drawings and independently creates needed drawings and renderings required by engineers for design and construction contracts. Prepares daily assignments to meet schedules and requests. Prepares and submits a variety of reports and documents to include securing permits. Prepares staking sheets to determine the cost of the required work as stated in the application. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

LOCATION:
- Main Office at Joeten Dandan; Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
- Sadog Tasi Offices of Water and Wastewater; Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
- Fieldwork on Saipan and temporary projects on Tinian and Rota also possible, but the primary place of work will be at the CUC main office, which is currently located at the Joeten Dandan building.

SALARY: $17,800.46 to $28,191.50 per annum; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITIONS: Two (2).
CONTRACT: Only if there are work authorization limitations; otherwise, not contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Associate Degree in Construction Management or Engineering Technology, or a related field and three years of senior engineering technician experience. Knowledge of: Public rights of way; CADD programs; water and wastewater infrastructure and projects; Global Positioning Systems; National Electric Code; Mathematics; Basic engineering concepts. Skill in: Drafting; Preparing engineering drawings using CADD; Using GIS; Preparing charts and graphs; Performing mathematical calculations; Performing basic engineering calculations; Solving problems; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must already have a U.S. or CNMI driver's license. Pre-employment drug testing required. Applicants may be tested.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 12-032
Opening Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012
Closing Date: Wednesday, November 7, 2012

ENGINEER

Duties: Under the overall supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her designee. Designs, executes, coordinates, and oversees assigned projects to ensure adherence with applicable specifications and standards. Assists the public with a variety of inquiries and requests; provides technical information on projects. Maintains project files; prepares related correspondence. Prepares design calculations, engineering drawings, and sketches. Drafts a variety of engineering reports and correspondence. Assists with data collection, troubleshooting and equipment/work analysis. Performs research. Performs construction management for assigned projects. May perform engineer duties for other divisions of CUC. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: Water and Wastewater Divisions, **SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA**.
SALARY: $37,344.71 to $55,315.50 per year; un-graded, un-classified.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Only if there are work authorization limitations; otherwise, not contracted.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Civil or Environmental Engineering and five (5) years of directly related experience in water and wastewater utility design, construction, and operations. Bachelor's degree in Architecture or Mechanical Engineering may be substituted for Civil or Environmental Engineering if five (5) years directly related experience in water and wastewater engineering, project management, and construction management can be proven. Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Basic project management principles; Mathematical concepts; Engineering principles and practices. Skill in: Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must have a U.S. or CNMI driver's license. Pre-employment drug testing required.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

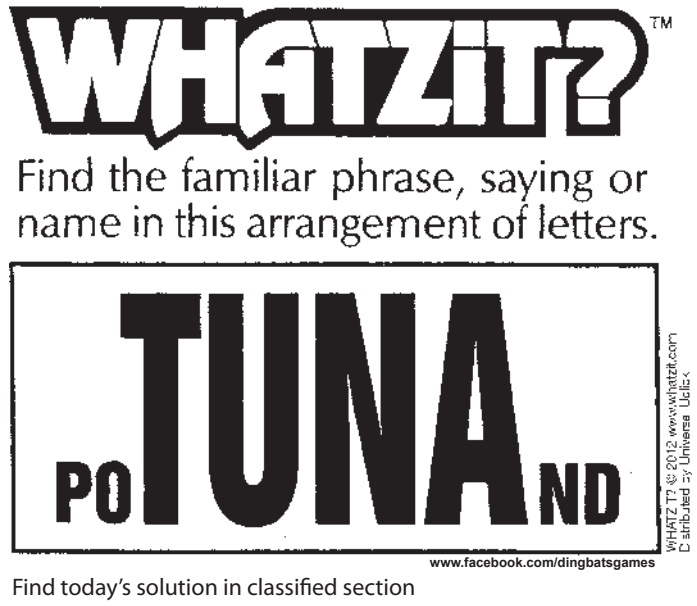
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.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Lakers top Pistons, finally get first win

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Dwight Howard scored 28 points, Kobe Bryant had 15 points and eight assists, and the Los Angeles Lakers finally got their first victory of the season, 108-79 over the winless Detroit Pistons on Sunday night.

Metta World Peace scored 18 points and Pau Gasol added 14 for the Lakers, who went 0-8 in the preseason and started the regular season 0-3 for just the fourth time in franchise history despite adding Howard and Steve Nash over the summer.

The Lakers' growing worries about their new offense and their roster's durability vanished for a day against the struggling Pistons, who never led.

Jonas Jerebko scored 18 points for Detroit in the second stop on a difficult six-game road trip.

Los Angeles took a 28-point lead in the first half and stretched it to 36 points in the third quarter, with Howard dominating the paint and Bryant slipping easily into a playmaking role in the injured Nash's absence.

The Lakers earned their first victory in nearly five weeks together since the start of training camp, and they occasionally resembled the powerhouse most expected to see this season—even if it's without Nash, who missed his second straight game with a small fracture in his left leg.

Howard excelled in the paint against Greg Monroe, hitting 12 of 14 shots—most of them right at the rim—and grabbing seven rebounds with just one foul. Bryant appeared to play easily on his sore foot, taking just 10 shots and grabbing seven rebounds.

The Lakers' starters played only token minutes in the fourth quarter, giving them valuable rest before Wednesday's trip to Utah.

The Lakers began the regular season by dropping games to Dallas, Portland and the Clippers, but they've only started a season 0-4 once in franchise history—and that was in 1957, back in Minneapolis. Los Angeles hadn't even started a season 0-3 since 1978—but that team won 15 of its next 16 games.

While the Lakers wait a week to learn the severity of Nash's injury, Steve Blake had six assists and a career high-tying five steals in his starting spot. Backup Darius Morris also played well with six points, but Gasol and Bryant are likely to be the Lakers' most important playmakers until Nash returns.

Knicks 100, Sixers 84

In New York, Carmelo Anthony scored 27 points, JR Smith had 20, and the New York Knicks rode another big 3-point shooting night to a 100-84 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers on Sunday in the opener of home-and-home series.

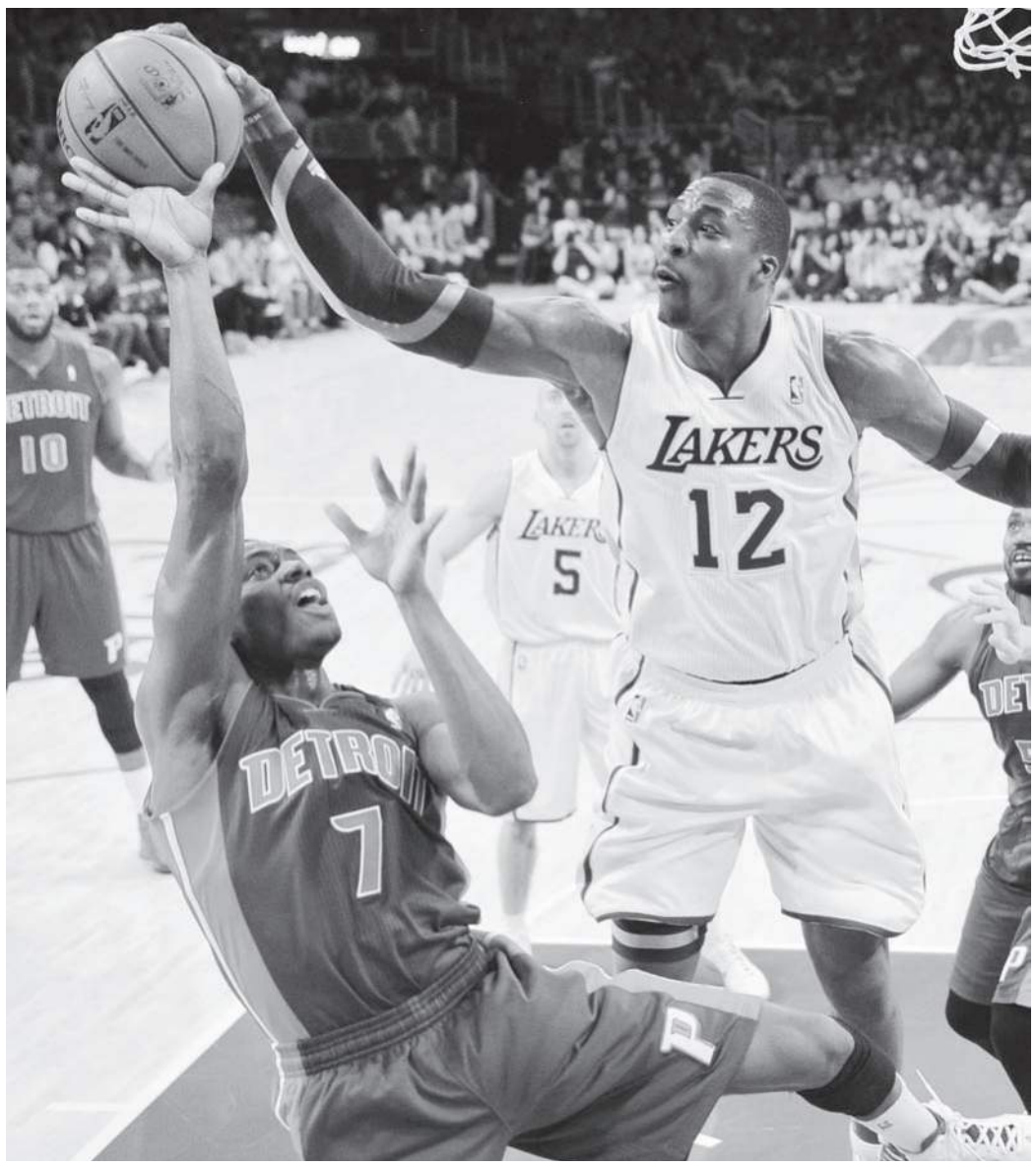
Jason Kidd had 12 points and six assists, and Raymond Felton added 11 points for the Knicks (2-0), who followed their 19 3-pointers in a season-opening victory over Miami by making 11 Sunday. They have won their two games by a combined 36 points.

Jrue Holiday had 27 points and seven assists for the 76ers (1-1), who will try for a split Monday at home. Thaddeus Young scored 16 points before fouling out and Evan Turner had 11 points and 11 rebounds.

Raptors 105, Timberwolves 86

In Toronto, Kyle Lowry and DeMar DeRozan each scored 22 points, Alan Anderson had 18 and the Raptors earned their first victory of the season, beating Minnesota.

Andrea Bargnani scored 10 points as the Raptors extended Minnesota's miserable record against Toronto. The Raptors have won 15 of the past 16 meetings, including nine straight at home. Minnesota has not won in Toronto since Jan. 21, 2004.



AP

Los Angeles Lakers center Dwight Howard, right, blocks the shot of Detroit Pistons guard Brandon Knight during the first half of their NBA basketball game, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012, in Los Angeles.

Andrei Kirilenko scored 17 points and Nikola Pekovic had 15 for the Timberwolves, who were outscored 26-13 in the fourth quarter, making just four of 16 field goal attempts.

Magic 115, Suns 94

In Orlando, J.J. Redick scored 24 points, Arron Afflalo and Glen Davis each had 22 points, and Nikola Vucevic added 18 points and 13 rebounds as the Magic rallied to beat Phoenix. The Magic trailed by as many as 13 points early in the second half, but used a 40-point third quarter to build a lead that swelled to 21 points in the fourth.

Luis Scola led the Suns with 24 points and Michael Beasley added 22. But Phoenix's shooting eroded overall in the second half.

Hawks 104, Thunder 95

In Oklahoma City, Al Horford had 23 points and 12 rebounds, Lou Williams added 10 of his 19 points during Atlanta's decisive fourth-quarter surge and the Hawks beat the Thunder.

Williams hit a 3-pointer, a 24-foot jumper and converted a three-point play off a driving scoop in the lane during a 12-4 push midway through the fourth quarter that put the Hawks in front to stay. Williams' two free throws made it 91-84 with 4:44 to play, and Atlanta held off a final charge by Oklahoma City.

Kevin Martin scored 28 points off the bench to lead the Thunder and Kevin Durant chipped in 22 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists. Durant was two assists shy of his first career triple-double but also wound up with six turnovers while shooting 2 for 8 in the second half. Fellow All-Star Russell Westbrook had an off night, making 5 of 18 shots while scoring 14 points and passing out nine assists.

Warriors' Rush has torn ACL, out for season

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)— Brandon Rush's season is over after two games.

The Golden State Warriors announced Saturday that an MRI exam on the team's top reserve revealed a torn anterior cruciate ligament in Rush's left knee. He will have season-ending surgery in the coming days. The typical rehabilitation time is at least nine months.

"He's not doing great. He's devastated as you can imagine," said Rush's agent, Mark Bartelstein. ''It's a traumatic thing to go through for anybody. We're going to figure it out and work with the Warriors and come up with a great plan to get him back. But for the moment, it's devastating with surgery and rehab ahead of you."

All the good vibes entering Golden State's home opener fizzled in an instant.

Rush leaped in the air for a dunk when Zach Randolph fouled him from behind with 4:09 left in the first quarter of the Warriors' 104-94 loss to Memphis on Friday night. Rush landed awkwardly, and his knee bent badly as he tumbled to the court.

The small forward got up on one leg, waved his arms in the air, and shook off teammates who tried to help. Rush covered his face in agony and eventually limped to the locker room with the support of teammate Jeremy Tyler and trainers.

"His reaction kind of said everything," Warriors point guard Stephen Curry said after the game.

Memphis selected third-string center Andris Biedrins to shoot the free throws. The home fans booed Biedrins—the former starter—before he missed both.

Richard Jefferson and second-round pick Draymond Green will be expected to fill the void in Rush's absence. The Warriors could also use the disabled-player exception to sign or trade for a player who earns up to half of Rush's annual salary.

Rush signed an $8 million, two-year deal in July - with a player option for the 2013-14 season - after coming over in a trade from Indiana for Lou Amundson last year. The 27-year-old Rush appeared in 65 of 66 games, posting career highs by shooting 50 percent from the field and 79 percent on free throws.

The forward fit seamlessly into coach Mark Jackson's system and became one of the team's best perimeter defenders, especially late in games.

Rush averaged 9.8 points and 3.9 rebounds in 26 minutes per game last season. He shot 45.2 percent from 3-point range—sixth-best in the NBA—and was Golden State's best option off the bench.

"It's a tough time," coach Mark Jackson said Saturday night before the Warriors played the Clippers in Los Angeles. ''It's a blow for us, no question about it, because we lose our best perimeter defender. Some teams you probably don't have to address when something like this happens, but this is an extremely close-knit group, and you could tell they were affected as soon as it happened."

Rush was drafted No. 13 by Portland in 2008 after leading Kansas to the national championship. He was then traded to Indiana along with Jarrett Jack and Josh McRoberts for Jerryd Bayless and Ike Diogu.

Rush originally declared for the NBA draft in the 2007 season until he tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. He never signed with an agent and returned to school, playing for the Jayhawks again only six months after surgery.

Just as he did before, those around him believe he will make a full recovery.

"He's strong minded," Bartelstein said. "Right now it's hard. I have no doubt he'll do great."

NHL, union make progress, will meet again soon

NEW YORK (AP)—A secret, long-awaited bargaining session has done some good in the NHL labor fight—so much so that the sides already have plans to get back to the bargaining table soon.

NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly and players' association special counsel Steve Fehr met for long stretches Saturday in an undisclosed location, marking the first time the sides had gotten together for talks in more than two weeks.

''We had a series of meetings over the course of the day and had a good, frank discussion on the most important issues separating us," Daly told The Associated Press in an email Sunday morning. ''We plan to meet again early in the week."

Daly and Fehr hadn't met since Oct. 18 when both sides rejected offers, but a series of phone conversations this week did enough to produce a new round of talks. It is unclear how long they were together on Saturday, but the discussions lasted well into the night.

"I agree with what Bill said. Hopefully we can continue the dialogue, expand the group, and make steady progress," Fehr said Sunday in a statement.

There is a sense of urgency now because nearly two months of the season and the prized Winter Classic have already been called off. The hope of a full season being played is already gone, and if a deal isn't reached soon, the NHL could be looking at its second lost campaign since 2004.

The lockout reached its 50th day Sunday, but a glimmer of optimism emerged. There have already been 327 games canceled—including the outdoor Winter Classic that was wiped out Friday.

A big point of contention between the NHL and the players' association has been the ''make whole" provision, which will ensure that all existing player contracts will be paid out regardless of any changes made to the split of hockey-related revenues or contract language.

Manning's 3 TDs rally Broncos over Bengals

CINCINNATI (AP)—Peyton Manning's two interceptions had put the Broncos behind. The four-time MVP was going to need yet another fourth-quarter comeback to pull it out.

No one's better at it.

Manning stayed perfect against Cincinnati on Sunday, overcoming his two interceptions with three touchdown passes for a 31-23 victory that gave him yet another NFL record that measures calmness under pressure.

His 48th game-winning drive moved him ahead of Dan Marino for the NFL record and showed Denver (5-3) that he's still got it when everything's on the line.

"He is special at it," coach John Fox said.

Especially when he's playing the Bengals (3-5), who have failed every time they've faced him. Manning improved to 8-0 career against Cincinnati, throwing for at least three touchdowns in five of those games.

His two second-half interceptions—one in the end zone, both by cornerback Terence Newman—helped the Bengals pull ahead 20-17 early in the fourth quarter. That's when Manning and the Broncos have been at their best.

It wasn't hard for Manning to get past the two bad moments and create more winning ones.

"I've been there before," Manning said. "My dad (Archie) always talked about you've got to get back to level zero, erase the play from your mind—a good play or a bad play—and move on to the next one.

AP

Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning (18) talks to players on the bench in the first half of an NFL football game against the Cincinnati Bengals, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2012, in Cincinnati.

Steelers 24, Giants 20

In East Rutherford, Isaac Redman ran for 147 yards, and scored the winning touchdown from a yard out with 4:02 remaining Sunday as the Pittsburgh Steelers rallied past the New York Giants, 24-20.

The Steelers (5-3) snapped New York's four-game winning streak by overcoming some uncharacteristic sloppiness and dominating the second half.

Temporary relief from the destruction of Superstorm Sandy was what New York's fans sought, and the Giants (6-3) provided it for a while.

Colts 23, Dolphins 20

In Indianapolis, Andrew Luck broke the NFL's single-game rookie record by throwing for 433 yards in leading Indianapolis.

Luck was 30 of 48 with two TDs and broke Cam Newton's previous mark of 422 yards set last season. And it came on the day coach Chuck Pagano returned to Lucas Oil Stadium for the first time since being diagnosed with leukemia.

Indy (5-3) has won three straight.

Luck gaining edge over RG3

MIAMI (AP)—With all due respect to Robert Griffin III, it's hard to top a rookie record that's sandwiched pregame and postgame speeches given by a cancer-stricken coach.

While Griffin, the No. 2 overall pick, remains the odds-on favorite to win offensive rookie of the year honors, the performance of No. 1 pick Andrew Luck on Sunday, and his steadiness throughout the season have suddenly made the discussion far more interesting.

Andrew Luck passes the football out of the end zone while Dolphins DE Jared Odrick pursues. And when you pull on heartstrings the way coach Chuck Pagano did Sunday, well, you have a show-stopper.

The Indianapolis Colts, a team most prognosticators saw as being in the primitive stages of rebuilding going into this season, improved to 5-3 with a 23-20 win over the Miami Dolphins on the strength of Luck's 433 yards passing, a rookie record.

As impressive as that was, it was Pagano who put it all in focus with his passionate promise after the game.

"You refused to live in circumstances," Pagano said, his breath short after being treated for leukemia for nearly a month. "You decided consciously as a team and as a family to live in a vision. That's why you bring things home like you brought [Sunday].

"I got circumstances. I understand it, you understand it … [but] I'm dancing in two more weddings and hoisting that [Lombardi] trophy."

Against that emotional backdrop was the stunning play of Luck, who completed 30 of 48 passes and tossed two touchdown passes. He would have had a third TD and another 39 yards if rookie wide receiver T.Y. Hilton had caught a pass toward the end of the first half.

But that was the story of the day. Don't let circumstances get you down. After the drop, Luck barely reacted as he turned to look for the next play call from interim head coach and offensive coordinator Bruce Arians.

"I don't think I heard the first couple of sentences that came out of his mouth," Luck said, referring to Pagano's pregame speech. "I was just excited to see him there and then I started listening because that's the head coach talking. He spoke on circumstances as opposed to a vision. Making sure we don't get down by circumstances whether it's our head coach dealing with his circumstances or injuries, but realizing your potential, understanding the vision, trying to get wins and going out there and doing it.

"I'm realizing no one cares about your record at this point of the season. It's all about making it to the playoffs. Obviously, it was a step in the right direction. I am proud of that, but we haven't accomplished the end goal by any means. We realize it's a long process."

To that end, Luck has been everything advertised coming out of Stanford, from the pinpoint throws to the subtle things that most fans never notice. This is what happens when a team has a competent quarterback who doesn't make constant mistakes. Instead of consistently coming up short as the Colts did last season when Peyton Manning was out for the year, the Colts have started to win these games.

Buccaneers 42, Raiders 32

In Oakland, Rookie Doug Martin rushed for a franchise-record 251 yards and four touchdowns and Ahmad Black intercepted a Carson Palmer pass after Oakland had cut an 18-point deficit to three late in the fourth quarter.

Martin, who was born in Oakland, had a memorable homecoming for the Bucs (4-4) by scoring on runs of 1, 45, 67 and 70 yards in the second half as he gashed what had been an improved run defense for the Raiders (3-5).

Falcons 19, Cowboys 13

In Atlanta, Michael Turner had a tiebreaking 3-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter, Matt Bryant kicked four field goals and the Falcons beat the Cowboys to extend their run as the NFL's only unbeaten team.

Turner had 20 carries for 102 yards and Matt Ryan had a season-high 342 yards passing for the Falcons (8-0), who took their first lead on Turner's TD with 14:16 left in the game.

Packers 31, Cardinals 17

In Green Bay, Tom Crabtree had a 72-yard touchdown that was Green Bay's longest of the season, and Randall Cobb added two scoring catches.

The Packers (6-3) finished with a season-high 176 yards rushing on 39 carries, the first time in a month they've cracked the century mark.

James Jones also had a touchdown reception, and Green Bay goes into its bye week with a four-game winning streak.

Texans 21, Bills 9

In Houston, Matt Schaub threw two touchdown passes and Arian Foster ran for 111 yards against Buffalo's NFL-worst rushing defense.

Andre Johnson caught eight passes for 118 yards and Foster scored for the fifth straight game for Houston (7-1).

Mario Williams had a sack and five tackles in his return to Reliant Stadium after he signed with the Bills (3-5) in the offseason. The Texans made Williams the No. 1 pick in the 2006 draft and he's still Houston's career sacks leader (53).

Panthers 21, Redskins 13

In Landover, Cam Newton completed 13 of 23 passes for 201 yards with a touchdown and ran eight times for 37 yards and a score as Carolina snapped a five-game losing streak.

The Panthers (2-6) were in desperate need of a win after a series of close defeats that had players questioning whether the team had any leadership. Newton responded with one of his best games of the season, including a 19-yard touchdown pass to Steve Smith and an 82-yard completion that set up a score.

Bears 51, Titans 20

In Nashville, Brian Urlacher became the latest Chicago defender to return an interception for a touchdown and Jay Cutler threw three TD passes to Brandon Marshall.

Cornerback Charles Tillman forced four fumbles and Chicago created five turnovers while winning its sixth in a row.

The Bears (7-1) scored a franchise-record 28 points in the first quarter. They took control by forcing three turnovers in the first 13 minutes and turning them into 14 points. Urlacher went 46 yards for his score.

Seahawks 30, Vikings 20

In Seattle, Marshawn Lynch ran for 124 yards and a touchdown, rookie QB Russell Wilson threw three first-half touchdowns, and Seattle overcame 182 yards rushing by Adrian Peterson.

The matchup between the top two rushers in the NFL—Peterson and Lynch—didn't disappoint with Peterson having his best game since 2008.

Ravens 25, Browns 15

In Cleveland, Joe Flacco threw a 19-yard touchdown pass to Torrey Smith with 4:26 as Baltimore won its 11th straight game inside the AFC North.

Smith caught Flacco's strike and spun away from cornerback Joe Haden as the Ravens (6-2) beat the Browns (2-7) for the 10th consecutive time. It was also Baltimore's 15th straight win following a loss, and helped the Ravens shake off a 30-point loss to Houston two weeks ago.

Lions 31, Jaguars 14

In Jacksonville, Mikel Leshoure ran for three touchdowns, Calvin Johnson got involved early and Detroit turned in its most complete victory of the season.

Detroit built a three-score lead before halftime and coasted after the break. It was a much different feeling for the Lions (4-4), who trailed in the second half in each of their other wins.

Leshoure finished with 70 yards rushing and scored on runs of 7, 1 and 8 yards, becoming the first in franchise history to run for three touchdowns in the first half.

Pacquiao 'rusty' in first sparring session

BOXING

MANILA, Philippines—"Rusty" is what Top Rank promoter Bob Arum used to describe Manny Pacquiao as the eight division champion started his sparring sessions at the Wild Card gym in Los Angeles.

Pacquiao flew out to LA this week for the continuation of his training for his fourth fight against Juan Manuel Marquez, after opening his camp in General Santos City weeks ago.

Arum, though, observed that Pacquiao was still far from perfect form after the conclusion of his first sparring session Wednesday.

"He's in great spirits, his condition is good, but he showed a great deal of rust in his first sparring session," Arum said in an interview with Chris Robinson of Examiner.

"Not slow, just rusty," Arum cleared.

But this was no cause to worry according to head trainer Freddie Roach, who guaranteed Arum that it was normal for Pacquiao to show rust at first.

"Freddie says that happens all the time with him, when he first starts sparring," Arum shared in the same interview, saying he will watch Pacquiao spar again the next day.

The Philippines' fighting pride Pacquiao and Marquez of Mexico face each other again on December 8 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in La Vegas, Nevada after three controversial fights. ***(PDI)***

AP

Manny Pacquiao is now in Los Angeles to continue his training for his fourth fight against Juan Manuel Marquez of Mexico on December 8 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in La Vegas, Nevada.

DEFENDING

From Page 28

ra Racing, had stints in Stages 2, 3, and 4 of the prestigious Tour of Utah. The six-stage race ran from Aug. 7 to 12 and featured more than 100 bikers from 16 teams, including six pro squads. He also joined the 2011 edition of Tour of Utah and once wore the most aggressive rider jersey in the tour (UCI 2.1).

Two months before the 2012 Tour of Utah, Anderson also competed in the Czech Cycling Tour and finished No. 32 out of 129 riders in the 147km race after clocking in at 3:23:62.

The 24-year-old pro, who defeated Kinji Hashimoto of Japan (3:00:59.18) in last year's "Hell," was in the same race in Czech Republic in 2011, topping the first leg of the tour. He also competed in the Australian Individual Time Trial Championships and finished fifth in the event.

Willett also had a share of several international tournaments this year, as she joined the Australian National Series, National XC Champs, Oceania Championships, World Cup, and the MTB Elite Women National where she finished third.

Willett took the women's division crown in last year's "Hell" after submitting 3:16:15.72 and surpassing the 2010 winning time of Mieko Carey. Willett's compatriot Amber Halliday still holds the women's record (3:13:20) the latter posted in 2009.

Carey, who had unfortunate bike crashes and was forced to loan a bike just to make it to the finish line last year, will fly from Guam to Saipan for next month's race in a bid for an upset against Willett.

Meanwhile, registration for the Hell of Marianas is on-going. Registration made on or before Nov. 20 costs only $60, while entry fees after that is $70. Riders will get limited edition HOM jersey, entry to post-event banquet and a raffle ticket.

The race will start and end at the southern parking lot of PIC with bikers heading north up to Kagman and pedaling down Capital Hill en route to the Radar Station, Suicide Cliff, Grotto, Bird Island, and Banzai Cliff before heading back to the finish line via Beach Road.

Bikers can enter in solo division, 2-person, and 4-person both in MTB and road bike categories. Races are also divided in age groups.

For more information, contact Policare at 237-5148 or via email at glenn.policare@picsaipan.com.

IFC-1

From Page 28

Gramlich.

Maryana drilled two goals for IFC-1, while Temary added one. Miles Rodriguez scored the other goal for IFC-1, which is now just one win behind the league-leading and unbeaten Matansa (5-0-0).

MP United-2 remained winless in five games and is at the bottom of the team standings in the 8-squad Division B. Tan Holdings FC and IFC-2 complete the field and hold identical 0-1-4 records.

DIVISION A
Shirley's 2, IFC 1

In the first Division A match, Shirley's FC also broke the tie for first place after defeating IFC.

With its third straight victory, Shirley's is now the only unbeaten team in the group. IFC fell to a 2-0-1 slate.

Lalaine Pagarao and Jeralyn Castillo logged one goal each for Shirley's, while Pratoon Stoffer made the lone goal for IFC.

Paire 7, MP United 2

In the other Division A match, Paire made it to the win column after two missed attempts.

Kayleen Salle toyed around the defense of MP United and scored five goals to lift Paire to the easy win. Natalie Hill earned the two other goals for Paire.

Michelle Masga put MP United (0-0-3) in the scoreboard off her penalty kick in the first half, while Negahr Rastguiy recorded the other goal for the slumping team.

Games in the futsal fall league are played three times a week or every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The first two playing days feature games in Division B, while Division A teams play only every Friday.

Tomorrow, sister teams IFC-1 and IFC-2 collide in the first game at 5:30pm; MP United-1 takes on Shirley's FC at 6:30pm; and MP United-2 duels Tan Holdings FC at 7:30pm.

CASTRO

From Page 28

Ariel Garcia (1:24:20). Completing the Top 4 were Noel Altamirano (1:39:18), and Arnel Cruz (1:41:07).

Over 30 bikers joined the Ride 'Round the Ridge, which aimed to prepare local riders for next month's Hell of Marianas.

The course brought bikers to the As Matuis ridgeline, Sirena and Kalaberra caves, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island Lookou, Kimikaze Trail, the coral road leading to Marianas Country Club, the one million-gallon water tank, and back up to Radar Station.

The top finishers in the sport and long courses and youth division each received gifts from event sponsors IT&E and Marianas Visitors Authority. All riders also got finishers shirt and certificates.

OVER

From Page 28

Jershwin Angeles, Angie Ito, and Irish Pagarao of Saipan Soccer School teamed up with Lee "Jacky" Wai Wo and Ho Man "Matt" Cheng of the visiting Chelsea Soccer School (Hong Kong) in conducting the two-session clinic for children in the 4 to 5 age group.

According to Angeles, the first session was held in the morning from 9 to 10, while the second one ran from 2pm to 3pm. Each session was divided into three classes and every class has 15 to 17 students.

"There were two stations simultaneously, one class per station, and the third class rested and watched while waiting for its turn. Every class spent eight minutes in each station and we gave the students water break in between," Angeles said.

"We had the 'angry birds' drill where you hit the cones with the ball and Chelsea coaches helped the students in this section. Then SSS coaches conducted the 'football relay' where kids went through obstacles. The students loved both drills and coaches made sure they were fun and meaningful," he said.

The SSC coach added they had the clinic as part of the outreach project to the community.

"We would like kids to learn and love the sport. This is a monthly project and it will be held every last Thursday of the month. We started last December 2011 and just took a break during the summer before resuming the program last month," Angeles said.

The group of coaches will continue to visit schools and announcement for its next stop will be made later next week.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	2	0	1.000	–
Brooklyn	1	0	1.000	½
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	1
Boston	1	2	.333	1½
Toronto	1	2	.333	1½

Southeast Division

Orlando	2	0	1.000	–
Miami	2	1	.667	½
Charlotte	1	1	.500	1
Atlanta	1	1	.500	1
Washington	0	2	.000	2

Central Division

Milwaukee	2	0	1.000	–
Chicago	2	1	.667	½
Indiana	2	1	.667	½
Cleveland	1	2	.333	1½
Detroit	0	3	.000	2½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	3	0	1.000	–
Dallas	2	1	.667	1
Houston	2	1	.667	1
New Orleans	2	1	.667	1
Memphis	1	1	.500	1½

Northwest Division

Portland	2	1	.667	–
Minnesota	1	1	.500	½
Oklahoma City	1	2	.333	1
Utah	1	2	.333	1
Denver	0	3	.000	2

Pacific Division

Golden State	2	1	.667	–
L.A. Clippers	2	1	.667	–
Phoenix	1	2	.333	1
L.A. Lakers	1	3	.250	1½
Sacramento	0	3	.000	2

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	5	3	0	.625	262	170
Miami	4	4	0	.500	170	149
N.Y. Jets	3	5	0	.375	168	200
Buffalo	3	5	0	.375	180	248

South

Houston	7	1	0	.875	237	137
Indianapolis	5	3	0	.625	159	191
Tennessee	3	6	0	.333	182	308
Jacksonville	1	7	0	.125	117	219

North

Baltimore	6	2	0	.750	199	176
Pittsburgh	5	3	0	.625	191	164
Cincinnati	3	5	0	.375	189	218
Cleveland	2	7	0	.222	169	211

West

Denver	5	3	0	.625	235	175
San Diego	4	4	0	.500	185	157
Oakland	3	5	0	.375	171	229
Kansas City	1	7	0	.125	133	240

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

N.Y. Giants	6	3	0	.667	254	185
Philadelphia	3	4	0	.429	120	155
Dallas	3	5	0	.375	150	181
Washington	3	6	0	.333	226	248

South

Atlanta	8	0	0	1.000	220	143
Tampa Bay	4	4	0	.500	226	185
New Orleans	2	5	0	.286	190	216
Carolina	2	6	0	.250	149	180

North

Chicago	7	1	0	.875	236	120
Green Bay	6	3	0	.667	239	187
Minnesota	5	4	0	.556	204	197
Detroit	4	4	0	.500	192	188

West

San Francisco	6	2	0	.750	189	103
Seattle	5	4	0	.556	170	154
Arizona	4	5	0	.444	144	173
St. Louis	3	5	0	.375	137	186

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

14th Annual Micronesian Cup

PHOTOS BY WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Saipan Outrigger Canoe Club paddlers dig hard toward the finish in the men's 500m repechage heat in the 14th Annual Micronesian Cup held late last month in the waters off Kanoa Resort.

Members of Saipan's Hoe Lokahi women's team cross the finish line in third place in the 1,500m finals.

Guam's Poksai Yellow coasts to second place ahead of Saipan's Hoe Lokahi in the women's 1,500m finals.

Belau Kanu Club members transfer paddles in unison down the homestretch of the 500m repechage heat.

A flagger makes a signal before the start of the race.

Guam's Tao Tao Galaide mixed team members give their all as they approach the finish line of the 500m repechage heat.

Guam's Ifit women's team executes a turn during the 1,500m finals.

Marianas Pacific Paddlers men's team nears the finish line of the 500m repechage heat.

Japan's Ohana Hoe paddlers compete in the men's 500m repechage heat.

Guam's Tao Tao Galaide looks on to see how it fared after completing the men's 500m finals.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Defending champions back in 'Hell'

Australian pro John Anderson (in green and black jersey), joins the lead pack en route to the Airport road during last year's Hell of Marianas.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Australian pros John Anderson and Jodie Willett will be back on Saipan later this month to defend their respective titles in the 2012 Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race set for Dec. 1.

Glenn Policare, sports entertainment and activities director of Pacific Islands Club, which is organizing the 100-kilometer race, said the two Australians had already confirmed their participation in the "Hell" and will be joined by other bikers from South Korea, Japan, Russia, Guam, and Tinian.

Anderson debuted in the "Hell" last year with a record-breaking time of two hours, 57 minutes, and 47.09 seconds. He surpassed the mark of Saipan's Eli Torgeson (3:02.22.62/2008) and became the first "Hell" participant to complete the race around the island in less than three hours.

The Brisbane native will be returning to Saipan after joining various races around the world this year. Anderson, who is now based in Girona, Spain and is suiting for Endu-

See DEFENDING on Page 26

Castro leads Ride 'Round the Ridge winners

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Teen rider Erico Castro won his second race in less than a month after topping last Sunday's 3rd Annual Ride 'Round the Ridge.

Castro, who ruled the pre-Hell of Marianas 50K Race a few weeks ago, completed the event that started and ended at Saipan Radar Station in As Matuis at the 44:34 mark. Castro joined the sports course, which had bikers doing one lap of the course, crossing the finish line just 11 seconds ahead of Edwin Palaganes (44:45). Larry Malig rounded out the Top 3 with his time of 48:16, while Glorybel Tan won the women's division after clocking in at 1:11:28.

In the youth division, 12-year-old Wynn Brillo came in at first place after submitting 1:04:10 and defeating 13-year-old Gerald Rangamar (1:10:20). Youth riders also did one lap of the course.

For the two-lap long course, Charlie Sendin topped the field after timing in at 1:22:30. Sendin made it to the finish line about two minutes ahead of runner-up

See CASTRO on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Bikers wait for the start of the 3rd Annual Ride 'Round the Ridge at Saipan Radar Station in As Matuis last Sunday morning.

IFC-1 breaks tie in futsal league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Independents FC-1 took the solo second place in the team standings in the 2012 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League after shutting out MP United 1, 4-0, last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.

IFC-1, which was in a four-way tie for second place with Shirley's FC, Paire, and MP United 2, as they shared similar 3-1-1 win-draw-loss slates before the weekend games, broke the deadlock after getting good games from mother and daughter Temary and Maryana

See IFC-1 on Page 26

IFC-1's Cleo Nening throws the ball during the first half of their game against MP United-1 in the NMIFA women's futsal league last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Over 100 JMR students join soccer clinic

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Saipan Soccer School held a clinic at the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start with more than 100 students attending the event held late last month.

See OVER on Page 26

Saipan Soccer School's Irish Pagarao guides a Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start student in performing a drill during a soccer clinic held late last month.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO